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The Bombay Chronicle

Regd. No. B 1065

Founder: Pherozeshah Mehta Editor: Syed Abdullah Brelvi

VOL. XXIX NO. 308 BOMBAY: MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1941 PRICE: ONE ANNA

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JAPANESE AIR RAID ON KUALALUMPUR

Govt. Buildings And Mosque Hit

NEW PINCER THREAT TO MALAYA'S 'TIN CAPITAL'

Tokyo Refuses To Recognise Manila As Open City

SINGAPORE, Dec. 28.

Some damage was done to Government offices, and there were casualties among the staff, it is announced, in the course of the Japanese air raid on Kualalumpur on Friday.

There was considerable damage to religious property. A Mosque was hit, and three worshippers were killed.

Malaya's "tin capital", the town of Ipoh about 300 miles northward of Singapore, is seriously threatened by a new Japanese pincer movement, says Reuter's correspondent.

While Japanese patrols were officially reported on Sunday to be operating some fifteen miles northward of Ipoh, other small Japanese units which by-passed Ipoh are operating around Blanja on the perak river, fifteen miles to the south-west.

'No Open City' Status

Japanese Unload Bombs On Manila

LONDON, December 28.

According to the New York radio, Manila was bombed again this morning. While rescue parties were still searching for missing persons, fires caused by yesterday's raids were being put out.

TOKYO, December 28.

Japanese forces in Luzon have rejected the American declaration designating Manila as an open city, declared an army spokesman at the Japanese Imperial Headquarters today (Sunday).

The Japanese Imperial Forces in the Philippines," he said, "will not consider their action in any way restricted by such initial announcement, but will carry out any steps considered necessary for the fulfilment of the war programme".

Manila city had functioned as the nerve centre of resistance in the Philippines and was surrounded at close range by important military and naval installations.

The Japanese action would "be limited strictly to attacks on military objectives."

Japanese Bomb At Will

MANILA:—The defenceless city of Manila suffered another violent attack by Japanese planes to-day (Sunday) lasting over two hours. The Japanese unloaded several scores of bombs which fell close to the heart of down section of the city. Many bombs also landed in the Pasig river, as the Japanese attempted unsuccessfully to hit boats tied up there. Air raid alarms sounded at 11/24 a.m. and it was not until 1/28 p.m. that the all-clear was sounded. At 4/30 p.m. four major fires were burning fiercely. Bombs fell on the old fort of Santiago, the treasury building, the Deletran College buildings and a newspaper building, all of which were set on fire. The Japanese planes which met with no opposition flew low and bombed at will. They attacked the walled city area four times afterwards turning their attention to the port area.

They flew in at least five formation of nine planes each. The Japanese split their formations and flew by threes in a straight line unloading their bombs only a fraction of a second apart.

JAPANESE PLANES ATTACK MEDAN

BATAVIA:—Seventeen Japanese planes attacked Medan air port on the west coast of Sumatra on Sunday afternoon. Parachutists were also dropped about ten miles outside Medan and fighting is still proceeding

Japanese Southward Drive In Malaya

Rested and reinforced, the Ja-

(Continued on page 5)

600 CIVILIAN CASUALTIES

NEW DELHI, Dec. 28.

Some 600 civilian casualties were caused in Rangoon, it is learned here, as a result of the first air raid on December 23.

Casualties in the second raid two days later were very small. Casualties among military personnel were also small.

According to a high military authority who was in Rangoon during the raids, the civilian casualties were largely due to people coming out into the streets instead taking cover.

STOP PRESS

STRUGGLE FOR PHILIPPINES SUBSIDED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.

The struggle for the Philippines has subsided in intensity, states a 'communique' issued by the War Department.—Reuter.

BATTLE FOR TAYUG

MANILA:—The small town of Tayug about 115 miles north of Manila and 35 miles east of Lingayen has changed hands several times in particularly fierce fighting, but the latest reports say that Filippino soldiers still hold it, according to the Governor of Santiago, Estrada. The Governor who arrived here today said that he was unable to report on the general situation in the Pangasinan Province owing to interrupted communications.—Reuter.

JAPANESE TRANSPORT SUNK

MANILA, Dec. 28.

American army bombers sank at least one Japanese troop transport off Southern Mindanad Island it is disclosed to-night in an Army 'communique' from General MacArthur's Headquarters.

LEAFLETS DROPPED IN SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE: — The Japanese dropped their first propaganda pamphlets on Singapore on Christmas Day, it is now revealed. The message which the Japanese brought to the people of Singapore was: "Burn all the white devils in the sacred white flame of victory."—Reuter.

MANILA ON FIRE

MANILA, Dec. 28.

For the second time to-day (Sunday) the port area and shipping in the Pasig river have been attacked by flights of Japanese bombers. Fires are being fanned by a strong south-westerly wind, and from Reuter's office windows on the top floor of a high building overlooking the port area, the fires appeared to be spreading.—Reuter.

Mahatma Gandhi, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and other Congress leaders addressed a crowded public meeting at Bardoli on Friday. A view of the gathering appears at the right.

VITAL ISSUES BEFORE WORKING COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION CENTRES ROUND THREE MAIN POINTS OF VIEW

Agreed Formula Not Yet In Sight

BARDOLI, December 28.

The deadlock in the Congress Working Committee continues. For the sixth day (to-day), the Committee continued its deliberations but an agreed formula is not yet in sight. According to informed quarters there are three main points of view that are now before the Committee, namely,

(1) REVIVAL OF THE POONA OFFER AND FAVOURING THE FORMATION OF COALITION NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE DURATION OF THE WAR;

(2) CO-OPERATION IN THE WAR EFFORTS FOR THE OVERTHROW OF NAZISM AND FASCISM, PROVIDED THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE AND

(3) OPPOSITION TO ALL WARS AS ADVOCATED BY MAHATMA GANDHI.

It is understood that the Committee had so far the benefit of discussing certain draft resolutions, but the fact that no resolution has been released shows that those drafts had fallen through, for lack of unanimity.

The issue of violence versus non-violence and its applicability in all spheres at the moment appears to have again come to the forefront of discussion. The close proximity of war, it is understood, is undoubtedly having its influence on the discussions.

It is reliably learnt that two draft resolutions supporting the two viewpoints mentioned above are now ready, and they will be discussed, when the Committee resumes its deliberations tomorrow.

Mahatma Gandhi commenced his silence this afternoon, and is expected to participate in tomorrow's discussions.—A. P.

LEADERS' TALKS AT AZAD'S CAMP

BARDOLI, Dec. 28.

The important issue of non-violence at the present critical moment in the history of the country came up for heated discussion last night at Mahatma Gandhi's camp after the Working Committee sitting was over. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Mr. Rajagopalachariar and Dr. Rajendra Prasad were present.

It appears, though the discussions continued for about two hours, no clear-cut formula to accommodate the different viewpoints could be evolved.

The discussions were resumed this morning at the camp of the Congress President, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Mr. Rajagopalachariar were closeted with the Congress President for more than two hours.

It is believed that all avenues for 'rapprochement' among the different schools of thought on the issue of non-violence and its effectiveness in national life are being explored. Although at one stage of the discussions it appeared that certain difference on the issue disappeared to great extent, it is premature to say even now if the members could come to complete unanimity in view of fresh problems facing the Committee everyday with developments in the Far Eastern situation.

JAWAHAR'S EFFORT AT AGREEMENT

BARDOLI, Dec. 28.

"We ourselves do not know when we shall finish our business," said the Congress President, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, to pressmen who accosted him after the sixth day's session of the Congress Working Committee was over at 6 in the evening after two hours' deliberations, if he could give any indication when the present session would be over.

To-morrow happens to be Gandhiji's silence day. But in order to make his services available to the committee at its afternoon's sitting, Gandhiji observed silence to-day, and consequently was absent from to-day's session.

The whole of this afternoon, it appears, was devoted to general consideration of the official resolution on the political situation. And though, as one leading member said, the differences among the members on the issue of non-violence are acute, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is making strenuous efforts to arrive at an agreed solution. Group consultation is being held at his camp after the meeting of the committee, where the Congress President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Mr. C. Rajagopalachari are present. They are meeting Gandhiji to-morrow morning for the same purpose.

How a compromise formula could emerge in the face of sharp differences on the main issue, it is difficult to predict at this stage. In this connection, it is believed by a section of the committee that suspension of the present symbolic Satyagraha movement may be one possibility which is likely to go a great way towards finding a via-media.

ATTITUDE TOWARDS A.R.P.

The "United Press" gathers that considerable time was occupied today, in discussing the utility of A.R.P. organisations and whether Congressmen should join them. It was felt in certain quarters that from the humanitarian viewpoint the association of Congressmen with these organisations might not have been objected to, if these organisations were found engaged in useful salvage work. But judging from their present activities, it was argued, they fell far short of these expectations.

CONGRESS AND CENTRAL ASSEMBLY

The Congress Working Committee is meeting at 9 to-morrow morning and again at 2 in the afternoon. Gandhiji will be present in the afternoon.

The "United Press" learns that after the main resolution is disposed of to-morrow or the day after, the ban on members of the Congress Party in the Central Assembly will be taken up for consideration, when Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, leader of the Party, is expected to make a statement.

As in view of the critical situation in the Far East the question of Congressmen's attitude towards A. R. P. organisations has assumed some prominence, it appears that a separate resolution thereon, without incorporating it in the main resolution, may be adopted.—United Press.

BARDOLI CALL TO A. I. C. C. MEMBERS

BARDOLI, Dec. 28.

Enquiries made by the United Press show that invitations have already been issued by the A.I.C.C. Office here to all members of the body to make it a point to attend its forthcoming session to be held at Wardha on January 15 as important issues will be discussed therein.

It is stated that out of the total number of the members, which is about 300, several are still in prison as detenus and Security prisoners.—United Press.

NOTICE TO READERS

Thursday being New Year Day, the offices of the "Bombay Chronicle" will remain closed. There will, therefore, be no issue of the paper on Friday.

JAPANESE SPEARHEADS DISLODGED

CHUNGKING, Dec. 28.

A Chinese War Communique issued here to-day says: "Chinese units, including fresh units rushed to North Hunan Province, have dislodged Japanese spearheads on the south bank of the Shantung River.—Reuter.

Hong Kong Completely Occupied

TOKYO, Dec. 28.

A joint communique issued by the Army and Navy sections of the Japanese Imperial Headquarters at mid-day (Sunday), Tokyo time, states that Japanese army and Navy units completely occupied the Island of Hong Kong at 6 p.m. on Friday night.

Wavell In Japanese Air Raid On Rangoon

Thrilling Experience Of India's C.-in-C. During Visit To Chungking

NEW DELHI, December 28.

Gen. Wavell had an exciting experience while passing through Rangoon on his Chungking visit. He was at Rangoon aerodrome when Japanese planes bombed it. As already reported little damage was done and no military casualties occurred.

WAVELL ASSUMES BURMA COMMAND

Gen. Wavell's assumption of the Burma Command emphasises the importance of Burma to the defence of India, of which it is really an essential part, said a military commentator speaking at Gen. Wavell's headquarters soon after the announcement was made to-day.

"If", said the commentator, "the enemy should succeed in establishing himself in Burma, he would have air bases within range of a large and important part of India and also submarine bases and ports from which he could make shipping in the Bay of Bengal very difficult and threaten all the eastern ports of India. Burma is important also as our chief means of communication with China whose supply line from America goes through Rangoon. From the point of view of ground defences and land defences, Burma is a country with comparatively few difficult approaches. The roads into Burma from Thailand are few and difficult and Burma from that point of view is, therefore, easier to defend than many other countries.

The Japanese, as we have seen from the war so far, have shown considerable aptitude for jungle warfare and for operating in difficult country and no difficult roads; but the approaches to Burma are very difficult and I am confident that we shall be able to defeat any attempt by land to invade Burma, when we have taken the necessary steps, which are now being taken.

"Burma is of course vulnerable to attack from the air and the port and aerodrome of Rangoon have already been subjected to two heavy attacks. They have not done any great military damage so far and the Japanese have suffered severely in loss of aeroplanes on these raids".

WAVELL'S VISIT TO CHUNGKING

The defence of Burma and our co-operation with the Chinese, went on the commentator, were of such great importance that Gen. Wavell recently paid a visit to Chungking and had interviews and discussions with Marshal Chiang-Kai-Shek. Major General Brett, Chief of Staff of the United States Air Corps, who accompanied Gen. Wavell, went to discuss among other things general questions of American aid in the defence of Burma. There are as already reported some American planes and pilots participating in the defence of Rangoon, as an important part of the defence of China.

The importance attached to the defence of Burma is also indicated by the fact that Gen. Wavell has parted with his own Chief of General Staff and considered to be one of the very best officers in either British or Indian armies, to take command in Burma.

NEW RESPONSIBILITY

It is emphasised that Burma has been placed under Gen. Wavell's command purely for military operations and for its defence. The arrangement is similar to that under which Gen. Wavell recently took over responsibility for the defence of Ceylon. He is responsible direct to His Majesty's Government and not to the Government of India, who are not responsible either for the defence of Burma or of Ceylon. Gen. Wavell's position in respect of Burma would be analogous to his position with regard to the recent operations in Iraq and Iran.—A. P.

DEFENCE OF BURMA

LONDON, Dec. 28.

General Wavell, the Commander-in-Chief in India has assumed responsibility for the Defence of Burma under the control of His Majesty's Government.

Burma is to have a new Officer Commanding. He is Lt. General Hutton who upto now has been General Wavell's Chief of Staff in India.

DEFENCE ARRESTS IN BURMA

RANGOON, December 28.

Arrests under the Defence of Burma Rules are still reported from different parts of Burma.

Among those arrested recently are U. Po, Secretary of the Myochit Party, Mr. J. Po. Thwe, Secretary of the Fabian Party and many others connected with Thakin organisations.—United Press

De Gaulle 'Coup Complications

Washington Parleys: Vichy Ambassador's Statement

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.

The Vichy Ambassador, M. Henry Haye, after seeing Mr. Cordell Hull, said that he had "no reason to doubt that French sovereignty would be re-established and maintained over the islands of Saint Pierre and Miquelon."

WASHINGTON:— The British, Canadian and United States Governments have been in consultation again on Saturday regarding the events on the French islands of Saint Pierre and Miquelon. The three Governments are confronted with the plebiscite taken earlier by Admiral Muselier and it is too early to say what decision will be reached but it is improbable that the population of these islands will be compelled to live under Vichy rule against their will.

Cordell Hull's Move

LONDON: Mr. Cordell Hull, the United States Secretary of State, has taken steps to initiate joint action by United States, Britain, Canada and Vichy for a amicable settlement of the situation arising from the Free French seizure of the French Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, off Newfoundland, cables the "Daily Telegraph's" Washington correspondent.

For some time, the State Department has been engaged in friendly convercations with Vichy officials on the Islands with a view to preventing the wireless being used there for messages likely to assist the enemy.

The "Manchester Guardian's" diplomatic correspondent observes that, with the British Prime Minister in Washington, it is hoped that the differences between the State Department and the Free French may be ironed out with the minimum delay. As leading New York newspapers remark: "This unconcerted action by the Free French, however picturesque it may be, undermines the need for a united allied strategy.—Reuter.

Hydari Seriously Ill

NEW DELHI, Dec. 28.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Akbar Hydari, Information Member, Viceroy's Executive Council, was suddenly taken ill on December 23 soon after return from his Calcutta tour. He is now in a nursing home and his present condition is causing some anxiety.—A.P.

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Wanted 10 Lawyers, 8 Graduates, 6 Engineers, 4 Doctors and 12 Overseers to apply for "Terms" to No. 15559, "Bombay Chronicle."

Wanted a shorthand typist for Solicitors office. Apply Box No. 15557 "Bombay Chronicle."

Wanted—Managers & Clerks on Rs. 50|-, 40|- for new offices establishment in Bombay Presidency. Apply General Business Emporium (India) Delhi. (15560)

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Wanted:—Well English qualified representatives and salesmen and women on Rs. 50|- and Rs. 30|- p. m. for our new branches establishment in Bombay. Apply, the Manager, Victoria Workshop, Lohshanara Road, Delhi. (15546)

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Pay will be Rs. 50—5—75 p.m. Candidates who are already in Government service may, however, draw the civil pay of their substantive civil appointment plus 25 per cent. of that pay as compensatory allowance while serving in India and 50 per cent when serving overseas if more favourable.

Copies of application form and other particulars are obtainable from the Director-General, Indian Medical Service, New Delhi, or from the Civil Administrative Medical Officers of the Provinces.

DIRECTOR GENERAL, I.M.S.

6781

MORVI-RAILWAY

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Inspection to be commenced within three weeks from the receipt of our order and the same to be completed within one month.

Payment to be effected on the actual count turned out at destination station.

The tender, which may be submitted on the Tenderer's own form should be addressed to the Stores Superintendent, Morvi Railway, Morvi, superscribed "Tender for Metre Gauge Sleepers" and accompanied with Rs. 500|- as Earnest Money.

Tenders will be received in this office upto 20th January, 1942, those received after that date will not be considered.

Copy of the Tender conditions and specification can be had from this office on payment of Re. 1|-.

B. R. JANI,
for Stores Superintendent.
Stores Superintendent's Office,
Morvi, 23-12-1941.

(6925)

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Public Notices

TENDER NOTICE

The CONTROLLER OF SUPPLIES (Purchase Branch) Shahibag House, Ballard Estate, Bombay, invites tenders for the supply of M.S. Plates.

Tender form No. MP|8G. 4600 may be obtained from him on payment in cash of Rs. 5|- per set. Due date of submission and opening of tenders at 4 p.m. on 9th and at 12 noon on 10th January 1942 respectively.

(6937)

THE CHHOI SILK MILL COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE

The FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the above Company will be held at the Registered Office of the Company, Bombay Mutual Building, Sir Pherozesha Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay, on MONDAY, 19th January 1942 at 4 p.m. (Standard Time) to transact the following business:—

1.—To receive and adopt Directors' Report and Audited Statements of accounts for the year ended 30th June 1941.
2.—To elect Directors in place of those who retire by rotation, but who are eligible for re-election.
3.—To appoint Auditor or Auditors for the current year and to fix his or their remuneration.
4.—To transact any other business the Chairman may bring before the Meeting.

N. B.—The transfer Books of the Company will be closed from 2nd January to 16th January 1942 both days inclusive.

By order of the Board,
CHHOI KOOKA DESAI & CO.,
Managing Agents.
Bombay, 2nd December, 1941.

(6935)

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY

HYDRAULIC ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

SEALED QUOTATIONS accompanied with a deposit of Rs. 100|- for the work of welding about 160 r.ft. of 3|8" thick M.S. plates to the bottom of 72" mains in Kasheli Creek are invited and will be received upto 1 P.M. (Bombay Time) on the 28th day of January, 1942.

Quotations should be enclosed in a sealed envelope superscribed "Quotations for welding patch plates to the bottom of 72" main in Kasheli Creek" and addressed to the Municipal Commissioner and delivered at the Office of the Chief Accountant, Municipal Offices, Fort, Bombay.

Forms of tenders, specifications, etc. will be issued on payment of Rupees 2|- to any one deputed to receive them by the Undersigned who will on application give any further information that may be required.

In the case of a firm the names of all the partners must invariably be specified in the tender.

The party whose quotation is accepted will have to execute a contract and they shall have to pay all the charges incidental thereto including preparation, stamping, etc.

The Municipal Commissioner does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any quotation.

E. A. NADIRSHAH,
Hydraulic Engineer.
Hydraulic Engineer's Office,
Improvement Trust Building,
Napier Road Fort,
Bombay, 23rd December, 1941.

(6933)

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BENNETT & CO.

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Under instructions from the Deputy Custodian of Enemy Property, Messrs. BENNETT & Co., will sell by public auction on SUNDAY, the 4th January, 1942, at 10-30 A.M. (S.T.) on the ground floor and 2nd floor of "Osaka House" at Carmichael Road, Cumbala Hill, the undermentioned property of Messrs. Osaka Syosen Kabusiki Kaisya and vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property.

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On view from the 1st January, 1942.

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Public Notices

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY

TENDER NOTICE

The CONTROLLER OF SUPPLIES (Purchase Branch), Shahibag House, Wittet Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay invites tenders for the supply of Axle Guards left hand and Axle boxes, cast Steel.

The price of tender form No. MP|8C|3555 is Rs. 4-8-0 per set of two copies (Rs. 2|- being the cost of tender form and Rs. 2|8|- for drawings).

Tenders will be received upto 4 P.M. on the 5th January, 1942 and opened at 12 noon on the 6th January, 1942.

(6934)

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TO-DAY: HINDI: 4 P.M. MARATHI: 1, 7, 10 P.M.
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Ladies Crowd to See the 'Anand' Release
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Now in 11th WEEK!
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SAJJAN
Starring: JAGDISH, HUSNA BANU, DAVID, SATISH, GOPE & AGA.
Direction: Mr. KHOSLA
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On Wed. & Thursday At 1 p.m.
SPECIAL SHOW TOMORROW AT 10 A.M.
A Laugh Parade
Dhandora
RANJIT'S COMEDY HIT
HELD OVER FOR 3rd WEEK
The Programme includes A Reel of IDD GREETINGS
Directed by CHARLIE
Cast: CHARLIE, DIXIT, SHAMIM, HUSN BANU
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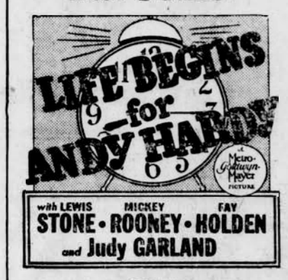

THIS MORNING! AT 10 A.M.
JEANETTE MACDONALD NELSON EDDY
"MAYTIME"
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.
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MAKE YOUR HOLIDAY MUSICAL—GO & SEE
DALSUKH PANCHOLI'S
Khazanchi
the Most Popular Musical
39th WEEK
KRISHNA
To-day at 1, 4, 7 & 10 p.m.

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Daily: 4, 7, 10 p.m.
Matinee at 1 p.m.
'Royal'-Jewels Always Shine and so Does
"SWAMI"
'Royal'-Jewel No. 16
Directed by KARDAR
स्वामी
ROYAL RELEASE NO.16
Held over 11th Week!
To-day and To-morrow Morning Show at 10

Make Yourself the Merrier at
THE REGAL
Daily at 4, 6-30 & 10 p.m.
SONJA HENIE JOHN PAYNE
Sun Valley Serenade
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A 20th Century-Fox Picture
New Year Attraction
LAUREL & HARDY in GREAT GUNS

A SENSATIONAL Forecast
UNUSUAL EVENT!!!
BOMB...
BOMB...
WILL VERY SHORTLY...
(see tomorrow's paper)

KNIFE AS AN OFFENSIVE WEAPON

Bombay Govt. Move To Amend Police Act

In view of a recent ruling of the High Court of Bombay that a small knife carried by a person could not be regarded as an 'offensive weapon' within the meaning of clause (a) of Sub-Section (2) of Section 23 of the city of Bombay Police Act empowering the Commissioner of Police, under certain circumstances, to ban the carrying of certain weapons, the Government of Bombay have published a draft amendment in the Government Gazette of December 23, for the information of the public.

Objections and suggestions should reach the Secretary, Home Department before February 1, 1942.

In a statement explaining the draft bill Government say:—

Section 23 (2) (a) of the City of Bombay Police Act, 1902, empowers the Commissioner of Police to prohibit in certain circumstances the carrying of swords, spears, bludgeons, guns or other offensive weapons in any public place. Recently the High Court, Bombay, held that a small knife carried by a person could not be regarded as an "offensive weapon" within the meaning of this section. There is thus no effective means to prevent the carrying of knives in times of disturbances. Experience of riots in Bombay City has shown that even small knives in the hands of persons bent on mischief can be as dangerous as bigger weapons. It is essential, therefore, that when public peace and public safety are to be preserved the Commissioner of Police should have the power to prohibit the carrying of knives also. It is necessary to this end to include the word 'knives' in Section 23 (2) (a) and Section 113 of the City Police Act.

The amendments are made to carry out this object.

"Free India" Annual

The annual number of "Free India", printed and published at 32, Broadway, Madras, is a veritable 'pot-pourri' with emphasis on cinema, art, dance and music. But the number does not merely devote itself to subjects from "Acha-Avatar" to "Art In Daily Life", although one might have expected more emphasis on political subjects, national and international. Again a description of ashram life will not be complete without life in Sevagram being depicted. The account of "Shantiniketan" and "Tiruchengode Ashram"—the "Ashram" of Rajaji—is interesting. The cover-page is adorned with a full-page picture of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the Congress President.

A. I. T. U. CONGRESS POSTPONED

CALCUTTA, December 27.

The nineteenth session of the All-India Trade Union Congress which was to have met in Calcutta on January 3rd and 4th has been postponed.

This decision has been announced by Mr. V. R. Kalappa, M.L.A., President of the A.I.T.U.C., who arrived here this morning.

In a statement Mr. Kalappa says that the decision was taken in view of the representations made by the delegates from various parts of the country about their inconveniences to attend the session in Calcutta, and in view of the undesirability to convene any large public meeting in the present situation. The next date and venue will be announced by the Working Committee of the A.I.T.U.C., in consultation with various provincial organisations.—A. P.

B. P. T. U. C. And War

Mr. Saad H Ali writes:—

I was surprized and shocked to read in this morning's "Chronicle", the inaccuracies in the report of the BPTUC meeting held last night.

To begin with, the heading mentions "A-I TUC" whereas the meeting was one of the Bombay Provincial Trade Union Congress.

Secondly it is mentioned that Mr. N M Joshi and Mr Purshottam Trikamdas opposed the resolution May I point out that speaker after speaker stood up to oppose the war resolution in no uncertain terms, and that Mr. Lalji Pendse had hardly any supporters in the whole House?

The statement that a majority of those present were in favour of the proposition is astounding. It can easily be proved from the records of the meeting that Mr. Pendse would not have got even a fifth of those present to support him.

Then comes the most amazing statement that the votes polled did not come up to the percentage required to enable the motion to be adopted. As a delegate I was present throughout the meeting, and I am not aware of any voting of any kind that took place —except in the imagination of Mr. Pendse perhaps. Mr. N M Joshi proposed that the motion be adjourned 'sine die' as the AITUC would probably take up the matter. Mr Pendse actually seconded the adjournment motion.

FOR THIRD CONFERENCE OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS.

POONA, Dec. 27.

Mr. D. L. Mazumdar, Secretary, Indian Central Jute Committee has arrived at Poona to attend the Third Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics. He will stay here till the 29th December when he will proceed to Bombay to attend the Silver Jubilee Session of the Indian Economic Conference to be held there.

He is expected to stay at Bombay till the 1st January, 1942.—A. P.

Iran Bans Import Of Opium

PESHAWAR, December 27.

The Iranian Government are understood to have enforced prohibition on opium throughout the country.—A. P.

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Bombay Thinks Mostly of

NOVELTY

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ADVANCE Booking open 9 a.m.

Special Class for Families

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Spectacular 2nd WEEK!

BOMBAY & SUBURBS

LOCAL ENGAGEMENTS To-day

Hindu: Paush Sud 11, 1998
Muslim: Zilhaj 10, 1360
Parsi: Tir 26, 1311
Sunrise: 7.10
Sunset: 6-10
Hightide: 7-25, 21-36
Lowtide: 1-41, 14-24
Bakri Id—Bank Holiday.

KANARA BROTHERHOOD

Under the auspices of the Kanara Brotherhood Mr M M Shanbhag, Karwar will deliver a lecture on "Konkani Language" in the Brotherhood Hall to-day (Monday) at 4-30 p.m.

POSTAL HOLIDAYS.

To-day (Monday) is a Post Office and Telegraph holiday on account of Bakri-Id Thursday 1st January, 1942, is a Post Office and Telegraph holiday on account of 'New Year.'

FIFTY THOUSAND FOR CHINESE RED CROSS

INDORE, Dec. 26.

H. H. Maharaja Holkar has sent a donation of Rs. 50,000 for Chinese Red Cross Fund.

NAGPUR AND ALLAHABAD EXPRESSES—On and from 1st January, 1942 the arrival timings of the Nagpur and Allahabad Express trains will be revised as under:—

Nagpur Express 15-30; Allahabad Express 20-25.

RAMANA SATCHIDANANDA SAMAJ

In connetcion with Ramana Jayanti programme, there will be a religious discourse on 'Divine love' by N. Brahmacharji of Shree Gondiya Mutt in English at 9 p.m. to-day (Monday).

AMUSEMENTS OF THE DAY

CAPITOL—"Road to Zanzibar". Daily at 4, 6-30 and 10 p.m.
REGAL—"Sun Valley Serenade". Daily at 4, 6-30 and 10 p.m.
METRO—"Life Begins for Andy Hardy". Daily at 3-30, 6-30 and 10 p.m.
EXCELSIOR—"The Reluctant Dragon". Daily at 4, 6-30 and 10 p.m.
NEW EMPIRE—"Aloma of the South Seas" Daily at 4, 6-30 and 10 p.m.
LAMINGTON—"Sajjan". Daily at 4, 7 and 10 p.m. Matinee to-day at 1 p.m.
PATHE—"Nai Roshni". Daily at 3-30, 6-30 and 10 p.m. Matinee to-day at 12-30 p.m.
ROXY—"Jhoola". Daily at 3, 6-30 and 9-45 p.m. Matinee to-day at 12 noon.
WEST END—"Sangam" Daily at 4, 7 and 10 p.m Matinee to-day at 1 p.m.
MINERVA—"Sikandar." Daily at 4, 7 and 10 p.m. Matinee to-day at 1-15 p.m.
KRISHNA—"Khazanchi" Daily at 4, 7 and 10 p.m. Matinee to-day at 1 p.m.
IMPERIAL—"Gharki Laj". Daily at 4, 7 and 10 p.m. Matinee to-day at 1-30 p.m.
OPERA HOUSE—"Dhandora". Daily at 4, 7 and 10 p.m. Matinee to-day at 1 p.m.
CENTRAL—"Sant Sakhu". Daily at 4, 7 and 9-45 p.m. Matinee to-day at 1-30 p.m.
KOHINOOR—"Payachi Dasi". Daily at 4-30, 7 and 10 p.m. Matinee to-day at 1-30 p.m.
MAJESTIC—"Swami". Daily at 4, 7 and 10 p.m. Matinee to-day at 1 p.m.
NOVELTY—"Tulsi". Daily at 4, 7 and 10 p.m. Matinee to-day at 1 p.m.
PALACE—"That Night in Rio". Daily at 4, 6-30 and 10 p.m.
CHITRA—"Shadi". Daily at 4, 7 and 10 p.m. Matinee to-day at 1 p.m.
EDWARD—"Down Argentine Way". Daily at 4, 6-30 and 10 p.m.

Concert At Nappoo Hall

Sangeet Vidwan K Lakshmidas Rao of Udipi gave a recital of Karnataki music on Sunday evening at Matunga The artiste rendered some new compositions. He showed good mastery of Karanataki technique and his Kirtans in Mohanam and Kararapriya were impressive and graceful. Mr. Rao was ably accompanied by Mr. Krishnaswami (violin) and Parameswara Iyer (Mridangam.)

MAHAVIR JAIN VIDYALAY.

Pt Sukhlia will deliver a public lecture on 'Aspects of Bharatiya Civilization' at a special pandal raised at the Gowalia Tank maidan in connection with Silver Jubilee celebration of Shri Mahavir Jain Vidyalay at 8-30 p.m. (S T) to-day (Monday) Sjt B G Kher wil preside.

TELEGRAPH NOTIFICATION.

With effect from the 1st January 1942, use of bentley's complete code phrase will be allowed in telegrams to and from Belgian congo including Ruanda and Urundi (East Africa) on the following conditions:—

(I) Neither private supplements nor numercial eanivalents of phrases of his code will be allowed.

(II) These telegrams should bear instruction "bencom" in preamble.

(III) These telegrams should be signed by the name of the sender. (2).

Telegrams for Muscat, Sharuah, Kuwait and Barhain will be forwarded via "VRC" since no route is available for Muscat or Barhain via Karachi.

B H U CHEMISTS.

On the occasion of the Jubilee Celebration of the Benares Hindu University, the department of Industrial Chemistry of the B H U is preparing and publishing a list of the ex-students of this department who are working in different parts of India, Burma and Ceyon. Dr N N Godbole, Principal, College of Technology, requests all ex-students to me good enough to send full information to him about their present address and the nature of the work they are doing.

On The Air

MONDAY, DEC. 29.

Delhi I—Programme

338.6 metres (886 kc/s)

4-30 p.m. For Indian troops in the Far East. 5 Akhtar Jahan Akbarabadi. 5-15 Ghulam Fareed. 5-25 Naghma on sitar. 5-30 Fagir Husain. 5-45 R. R. Chowdhury. 6 News in English. 6-5 News in Hindustani. 6-10 Special announcements. 6-15 Anwarbai. 6-25 Recitation. 6-30 Warriors of Legend. 7. 6-45 For villagers only. 7-45 Id-u-Zuha. 8 Akhtar Jahan Akbarabadi. 8-15 For the Universities. 8-30 Ghulam Fareed. 8-45 R. R. Chowdhury. 9 News in Hindustani. 9-15 News commentary in Hindustani. 9-20 News in English. 9-30 B B C News relay. 9-45 Fagir Husain. 9-55 Listening post. 10 Id variety programme. 10-30 Sidheshwaribai.

Bombay 1—Programme

244 metres (1,231 kc/s)

8 a.m. Ranjit Roy and party. 8-5 News in Hindustani. 8-15 News in English. 8-25 "Firdaus-i-Goosh". 8-50 News in Marathi. 9 News in Gujarati. 9-10 Screen Snapshots. 9-30 Laxmibai. 11 "Id-ul-Zuha". 12-45 p.m. Air Trio. 12-57 News in Hindustani. 1 G. J. Watve. 1-15 D. R. Nimbargi. 1-30 News in English. 1-35 London Piano—Accordeon Band. 5 To-morrow. 5-5 D. R. Nimbargi. 5-25 G. J. Watve. 5-40 News in Marathi. 5-45 News in Gujarati. 5-50 Kabir Dasji Bhajan. 6 News in English. 6-5 News in Hindustani. 6-10 Saleh Mohammad. 6-20 Local news and announcements. 6-25 Local news and announcements. 6-30 Nana Ani Mani. 7 Book review. 7-15 G. J. Watve. 7-30 Kalyani. 7-45 News commentary. 7-50 G. J. Watve. 8 News in Marathi. 8-15 News in Gujarati 8-30 Sports review. 8-45 Radio reconnaissance. 9-20 News in English. 9-30 B B C News relay. 9-45 War commentary. 9-55 Listening post. 10 News in Hindustani. 10-15 News commentary in Hindustani. 10-30 Udyacha Prashna. 10-45 Laxmibai.

Bombay II—Programme

41.44 metres (7,240 kc/s)

8 to 8-5 a.m. As in Bombay 1. 8-5 Marathi bhavgeets. 8-15 Instrumental music. 8-25 to 8-50 As in Bombay 1. 8-50 D. R. Nimbargi. 9-10 to 10-30 As in Bombay 1.

41.44 metres (7,240 kc/s)

11 to 2-25 p.m. As in Bombay 1.

61.48 metres (4,880 kc/s)

5 to 6 p.m. As in Bombay 1. 6 Amritlal. 6-10 to 7-15 As in Bombay 1. 7-15 Interval.

89.15 metres (3,365 kc/s)

7-30 to 8 As in Bombay 1. 8 Avinash Vyas. 8-15 Saleh Mohammad. 8-30 to 9 As in Bombay 1. 9 Air Orchestra. 9-10 Kalyani. 9-30 Mantzari Mavricakis. 9-45 Mehli Mehta and His Sextte.

Madras Broadcast On "Rumours"

MADRAS, Dec. 27.

"Rumours" is the title of a talk to be broadcast at 7/10 p.m. on Monday December 29 by the Hon. Mr. Justice S. Wadsworth from the Madras Centre of All-India Radio. This talk will be radiated on 211 and 87.34 metres.—A.P.

The auspicious "Nobat Chhapai" ceremony, official announcement in connection with the wedding of Namdar Shahzada Vali-Ahd Mahomad Dilawarkhanji, heir-apparent of H H the Nawab of Junagadh was performed by Sahebzada Sardar Mahomadkhan, Dewan of Junagadh, as the "Umarao Mansil".

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NATIONAL'S PICTURE FOR YOUR HOLIDAYS!

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THE STORY OF 8 SIMPLE FOLK IN SEARCH OF HAPPINESS

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6th WEEK

STILL GOING STRONG AT

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Daily: 3-30, 6-30 & 10 p.m.
12-30 Matinee: To-day & To-morrow.

Nai Roshni

Starring:
SARDAR AKHTAR, HARISH HUSN BANU, AMAR KANAIYALAL, SUNALINI DEVI, BHUDO SANKATHA

Direction:
LALIT J. MEHTA & CHIMAN KANT GANDHI

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LAUGH till you're limp!

LISTEN till you're caught tapping!

LEELA CHITNIS and ASHOK KUMAR in BOMBAY TALKIES' Laugh-and-rhythm show

JHOOLA

Daily, 3, 6-30, 9-45 p.m.
TODAY, Wednesday, Thursday, 11-45 noon

At ROXY

Ranji Trophy

SOUTHERN PUNJAB v. N. I. C. A.

Continuing their first inning's play in the Ranji Trophy match against Northern India Cricket Association, the Southern Punjab were all out for 158 on Sunday.

N I C A's second innings terminated at 128 and when stumps were drawn for the day, Southern Punjab, who required 226 runs to win, had scored eight for two wickets in their second innings.

Rosnanlal not out nil; Daljinder not out 2.

N I C A First Innings 285
Southern Punjab First Innings 158
N I C A Second Innings 128
Southern Punjab Second Innings (For two wicks.) 8

LAHORE, Dec. 28.

Amarnath joined Abdurreham to continue the Southern Punjab First Innings, when play was resumed this morning in fine weather. The test player opened his account with a terrific straight four off Chunilal and followed this up with two more boundaries to carry the total from 12 to 30 in less than fifteen minutes. The partnership was dissolved when six runs later Chunilal spreadeagled Abdur Rahman's wickets (36/3/4).

This brought together Amarnath and Nazir Ali and the rate of scoring increased. Nazir Ali ondrove Jehangirkhan to the boundary and Amarnath, responding magnificently at the other end, soon took the total to 50 in seventy minutes. Amarnath survived confident leg before appeals and had a "life" when at 33 he was dropped by Habibullah. Executing strokes on his inimitable style Amarnath pulled Jehangir for a brilliant fours and a little later legglided Sarfraz to the boundary. While attempting a big hit Nazir Ali when his score was twelve, snicked the ball into the hands of Habibullah, who accepted it. (74/4/12).

Raisingh joined Amarnath, who greeted his new partner with a four to cover off Jehangir, incidently reaching his individual fifty in seventy minutes. At this stage the total was eighty. The test player then sent the ball to the ropes twice in quick succession hoisting the first century of the innings in 110 minutes when his individual contribution was seventy.

RUN A MINUTE

The Patiala pair which constitued a formidable combination, ruthelessly punished the bowling and scoring almost at the rate of a run a minute, took the score to 128. At this stage Amarnath, on whom devolved the major resposibility of saving his side, was dismissed being caught by Nazir off Habibullah for 75. Amarnath had played a great innings and had rendered a valuable service to the Southern Punjab. His chief strokes were eight four. (128/5/79).

Two wickets then fell quickly Bhalinder Singh's advent saw the dismissal of Raisingh who was stumped and Roshanlal, who was the next man in, was out lbw to Habibullah. This brought together Bhalinder Singh and Murrawat.

Habibullah's analysis at this stage was 9/3/13/4

A smart return by Anwar disposed of Murrawat for two. After the departure of Amarnath three wickets had thus fallen for the addition of five runs. When the total was 142 Amar Elahi was given lbw to Habibullah and Balindushah brought the rear.

When the teams adjourned for lunch the total was 148 for nine. Bhalinder Singh 9, Balindushah nil Extras 7.

The Southern Punjab first innings concluded seven minutes after lunch interval for total of 158 Balindushah being caught by Sharif off Habib.

Habibullah was the most successful bowler, capturing six wickets for seventeen runs.

N I C A's SECOND VENTURE.

With a lead of 127 on the first innings total the NICA entered on their second venture disastrously, losing five valuable wickets for a paltry score of 22 runs in less than an hour. Nazir Ali, who failed to capture a single wicket yesterday played havoc with batsmen in his opening spell to-day, dismissing Jagdish, Nazar and Gulzar before double figure was reached. Amir Elahi then claimed the fourth and fifth wickets, clean bowling Abell, the NICA skipper, and Sharif for two and seven respectively. The NICA had thus lost five wickets for 22.

Ramparkash and Anwar facing the attack confidently carried the score to 50 in 75 minutes. Driving and hooking powerfully Ramparkash piled up 34 when he was stumped by Balindushah off Amir Elahi (85-6-34) Jehangirkhan joined Anwar and century of the innings was hoisted in one hour and fifty minutes. When the total was 105 Jehangirkhan was clean bowled by Amir Elahi (105/7/9) Sarfraz was the next man in.

NICA (1st Innings) 285

SOUTHERN PUNJAB (FIRST INNINGS).

Munilal b Chunilal	2
Daljinder Singh b Habibullah	7
Abdurrahaman b Chunilal	4
Amarnath v Nazar b Habibullah	79
Nazirali c Habibullah b Sarfraz	12
Raisingh st Abell b Habibullah	19
Roshanlal blw b Habibullah	0
Murrawat run out	2
Amir Elahi lbw b Habibullah	7
Balindushah c Sharif b Habibullah	1
Ahalindersingh not out	13
Extras	12
Total	158

Bowling Analysis:—

	O	M	R	W
Jehangir Khan	17	6	34	0
Chunilal	18	2	50	2
Habibullah	15	7	17	6
Agha Sarfraz	13	1	45	1

Fall of Wickets: 1/2 2/12 3/36 4/74 5/128 6/129 7/129 8/133 9/142 10/158.

N I C A (SECOND INNINGS.)

Nazar st Balindushah b Nazirali	1
Jagdish b Nazirali	4
Gulzar c Munilal b Nazirali	0
Ramparkash st Balindushah b Amir Elahi	34
Sharif b Amir Elahi	7
Abell b Amir Elahi	2
Anwar st Balindushah b Amir Elahi	51
Jehangirkhan b Amir Elahi	9
Sarfraz b Amarnath	7
Chunilal c Amir Elahi b Amarnath	0
Habibullah not out	7
Extras	8
Total	128

Bowling Analysis.

	O	R	R	W
Murrawat	3	0	10	0
Nazirali	11	3	21	3
Amarnath	14	3	25	2
Amir Elahi	18,1	4	65	5

Fall of wickets: 1/6 2/6 3/9 4/20 5/22 6/85 7/105 8/118 9/118 10/128

Two wickets fell at 118 Amarnath shattering Sarfraz's wicket and Amir Elahi holding Chunilal off the same bowler. Anwar, who achieved distinction of bringing the topscorer yesterday with fifty, completed his half century to-day after he had been at the wicket for 75 minutes but was stumped by Balindushah who terminted the nice second innings for a total of 128.

SOUTHERN PUNJAB'S SECOND VENTURE.

With 256 to win the Southern Punjab opened their second inuings through Munilal and Dalindersingh to the bowling of Chunilal and Habibullah. The partnership was broken when Munilal was goven lbw to Habib for five. Murrawat, who joined Dalinder Singh, was caught in slips by Habib off Chunilal; two wickets thus falling for six runs.

When stumps were drawn for the day the Southern Punjab had scored eight for two wickets Roshanlal not out zero, Dalinder Singh not out two. Extras zero. Total for two (eight).

MEHTA BEATS PREM PANDHI

Ghaus And Iftikhar Also Shine In East India Lawn Tennis Matches

CALCUTTA, Dec. 28.

The semi-final of the Men's Singles was reached to-day in the East India Lawn Tennis Championships played at the Calcutta South Club. The attendance was easily the largest.

The position in the semi-finals of the Men's Singles is Ghaus Mahomed vs. J. M. Mehta, Iftikhar Ahmed vs. Madan Mohan.

The best match of the afternoon was between J. M. Mehta and Prem Pandhi, the Punjab player, which Mehta won after three sets. Mehta is essentially a doubles player, and his victory this afternoon over Prem Pandhi, who by the way beat Ghaus Mahomed very recently, has brought him to the top flight of India's best.

Iftikhar Ahmed got his own back against Dilip Bose, whom he beat in straight sets rather easily. It will be remembered that earlier in the year Bose sprang a surprise by beating Iftikhar Ahmed in Lahore. But in this match the winner was a different player. His cannon-ball services won him many aces, and his deep driving combined with brilliant net play outpointed Bose in both sets.

By virtue of her victory over Miss Dixon, Mrs. Cargin has reached the final of the Women's Singles.

RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES:—J. M. Mehta beat Prem Pandhi 7/5, 4/6, 6/3; Ghaus Mahomed beat R. J. Moses 6/3, 6/2 and Iftikhar Ahmed beat Dilip Bose 6/2, 6/2.

MEN'S DOUBLES:—Ghaus Mahomed and Iftikhar Ahmed beat P. N. Murthi and Madan Mohan 6/3, 6/2; J. M. Mehta and Sunant Mista beat Prem Pandhi and Irshad Hussain 6/2, 6/0.

WOMEN'S SINGLES:—Mrs. C. E. Cargin beat Miss E. Dixon 6/2, 6/3.

VETERAN'S SINGLES:— L. Brooke Edwards W. O. Major Raj Kumar Krishna Prosad W. O. Rajindra Singh.

JUNIOR SINGLES:—Deb Kumar Roy beat J. Elias 6/2, 6/0; J. N Chowdhury beat C. G. Robertson 8/6, 6/3.—A. P.

TENNIS AT CALCUTTA

CALCUTTA, Dec. 27.

A Madan Mohan, a former All-India Tennis champion, reached the final of the men's singles in the East India Lawn Tennis Championships, played at the Calcutta South Club, to-day, defeating E. C. Ford in straight sets.—A. P.

CRICKET AT MEERUT

MEERUT, Dec. 27.

In the first semi-final of Meerut cricket played against Free Lancers Cricket Club, Patiala, Meerut batting first all out for 135.

The Patiala side scored 148.

In their second inning, Meerut score, 36 for two wickets when stumps were drawn for the day.—A. P.

Mako To Replace Perry

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.

Lawn Tennis Star Gene Mako has turned a professional, the promoter Alexi's Thompson announced to-day. Mako will re-place Fred Perry in a professional tennis tour with Budge, Biggs and Kovacs, he said.

Mako will continue with the troupe until Perry is able to return to competition.—Reuter.

Egyptian Consul's Id Greetings

On the occasion of the Bakr-Id the Royal Consulate of Egypt, Bombay, present compliments and greetings with best wishes to all Muslim brethren throughout India.

On this occasion the Consulate will be open to visitors on the 29th December 1941 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the Consulate offices will remain closed from Monday, the 29th and three days thereafter.

A.-I. TRADE UNION CONGRESS

BOMBAY, Dec. 28.

It is announced that the Working Committee of the All India Trade Union Congress will be held at Calcutta at 2-30 p.m. on January 2, instead of January 1 as previously arranged.

Members of the A.I.T.U.C. Delegation, who are to meet the Labour Member of the Government of India, will also attend the meeting.

The agenda before the meeting includes a discussion of the Government memorandum regarding the proposed labour legislation as well as the arrangement of the 19th session of the Trade Union Congress.—A. P.

ALIGARH, Dec. 24.

The All-India Inter-College competitive debates of the Muslims University Union, Aligarh, which were postponed in December will be held on January 15 and 16 at 7 p.m. in the Strachey Hall.

For the English debate on January 15 the subject is:—"That in the opinion of this House universal disarmament is essential for world peace and the progress of civilisation," Urdu debate will take place on January 16. Each constituent institution will be entitled to send two representatives for each debate, one to speak for and the other against the proposition. Competitors will be the guests of the Union. Special arrangements have been made for the accommodation of lady speakers with the Bady Principal of the Girl's College.

PUBLIC WARNED AGAINST PANIC

Jinabhai On Congress Plans To Meet Air Raid Menace

BOMBAY, Dec. 28.

A clear warning against panic and an appeal for courageous action under the banner of the Congress was uttered by Mr. Janibhai P. Joshi, unfurling the National tricolour at the monthly flag salutation at Congress House on Sunday morning.

After the "Jhanda Vandan", Mr. Joshi made a brief speech in the course of which he drew attention to the international situation. It was the duty of every Congressman pledged to service to render assistance to the suffering. Helping war casualties was no exception to this rule.

The Working Committee of the Congress was considering the steps they should take for the protection of life and property in case of air raids or any such eventuality. The people should prepare themselves to carry out the instructions of the Committee in an organised and disciplined manner.

He appealed to them to enrol as Volunteers to help in carrying out the steps that the Congress might take in this behalf.

Released Satyagrahis Popularise Charkha

BOMBAY, Sunday.

Some of the released Satyagrahis and other Congressmen are employing their unsought freedom in popularising the Charkha.

With this view they are holding mass demonstrations in one or other park or public place in the city every Sunday evening.

Such a demonstration was held to-day at the Kamgar Maidan. The humming wheels attracted an appreciative crowd of spectators. The Satyagrahis carried on this demonstration for about an hour.

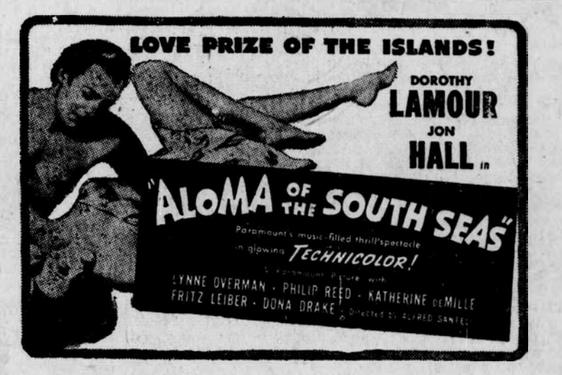
JAIN MAHAVIR VIDYALAYA JUBILEE

The Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Mahavir Jain Vidyalaya which started on Saturday were continued on Sunday, when Sir Manilal B. Nanavati, presided.

The institution runs a residential hostel for students of the Jain community since 1915. This hostel to-day has 118 students in a magnificent building of its own at Gowalia Tank.

The institution has also undertaken the administration of about a dozen educational trusts such as the Mahavira Loan Fund, Sheth Devkaran Moolji Foreign Studies Trust Fund, Sheth Sarabhai Modi Loan Scholarship Fund, Sheth Sarabhai Modi Higher Studies Loan Scholarship Trust and the Seth Meghji Sojpal Religious Education Fund etc.

During the 25 years of its fast-expanding activities the institution has distributed more than ten lakhs of rupees in the cause of secondary, higher and post-graduate education of students of the Jain community. The annual expenditure comes to about Rs. 70,000.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LIBERTY VINDICATED

The Liberal Federation has adopted a resolution protesting against the ban placed on the Bhagalpur session of the Hindu Mahasabha by the Bihar Government. It rightly condemned the ban as "a denial of one fundamental rights of citizenship for which there was no justification in the circumstances". Whatever might be the motive behind the ban, it is wrong to suggest that it was meant to placate the Muslims and that it was even desired by them. Mr. N. C. Kelkar, while denouncing the ban, remarked: "The British Government is out to fight the dictatorial tyranny of Hitler, but what about the dictatorial tyranny of a minority nationality in India and the unashamed upholding of it by the Bihar Government?" Government will explain their conduct if they can, but it is most unfair to say that Muslims approve of a ban which any day may come upon themselves, if it is once countenanced. As was remarked by Mr. Srinivasa Sastri, who moved the resolution at the Liberal Federation, "The Muslim community did not welcome the stamp of the disturbers of public meetings but that was sought to be put upon them by the administration, and they were certainly not the fanatical or irresponsible set of citizens they were represented to be. As a matter of fact the local Muslim community had expressed their sympathy with the organisers of the Mahasabha and a section of them joined in the hartal as a mark of protest against the Government action". The local Government must have known of this attitude of the Muslim community. The attitude of the Muslim community is clearly and emphatically expressed by the "Star of India", the Calcutta organ of the Muslim League, when it says: "The right of association, free speech and lawful demonstration cannot be easily sacrificed for the advantage of a hide-bound officialdom, and every citizen will resent the conduct of the Government in trenching upon this constitutional right. While a common right is cherished by all the people of India, we see some Hindus cloaked in the senatorial toga of Liberalism introducing a new twist in the situation. They insinuate that the Muslim had yearned to see the Bihar Government upset the plans and that it is to oblige them that all this meddling and muddling has been done. The "Liberal" leaders speak of official "partiality" and ask the Government not to place "the clear right of one community at the mercy of another." It is an impudent foisting of blame where it does not belong... What is imputed to Muslims within their plea for impartiality is an insult to Muslims since it is never the principle of the Muslim League to see official leverage for directing repression against other classes of people in India."

Good Out Of Evil

However, as Gandhiji observes in his statement on this subject, "out of evil somehow or other good often results." "Let me hope," he says, "that this action of the Bihar Government has brought the Hindus and Muslims of Bihar and even all India, together on the common platform of human liberty...I hope that there will be only one end to this Bihar episode, viz., lifting of the ban on the Hindu Mahasabha and the men who are imprisoned to-day holding their session without let or hindrance". As the session has already been held in some form or other in spite of arrests and a lathi charge, the ban will, of course, be withdrawn but it will now be a graceless move. As for the hope that Government's action will bring all India on a common platform of human liberty, a great deal more is necessary to bring about this wider result. But it is no small thing that people are learning to win liberty, not by begging for it, but by asserting it, and civil disobedience is fast gaining popularity. Gandhiji has good reason to say: "It fills me with delight to find Vir Savarkar, Dr. Moonje and other leaders being arrested in their attempt to assert the very primary and very fundamental right of holding an orderly meeting subject to all reasonable restrictions about the preservation of the public peace."

Constitutional Issues

The Bhagalpur bungle, if it is nothing worse, raises some constitutional issues which deserve to be noticed. Mr. M. R. Jayakar, a recognised authority on law and constitution, says: "The Bihar Government's action under Section 93 is under the present constitution directly subject to the supervision and control of the Viceroy. Now that he has the benefit of consultations with eight notable Indians is it too much to hope that the woeful tragedy that is being perpetrated in Bihar will be saved from developing into more dangerous extremes?" But the Viceroy is reported to have declined to intervene in a matter which, according to him, is purely provincial. If the Bihar Government were popular and autonomous nobody would have suggested the Viceroy's intervention. But the present Government cannot be called either autonomous or popular. They are in practice part of the all-India bureaucratic machine, and the Viceroy cannot escape his responsibility in a matter calculated to disturb war effort seriously. Secondly Mr. Jayakar has good reason to remark: "Enlightened opinion in India irrespective of party affiliations will regard the Bihar Government's action as indicating its thorough incompetence to discharge evenhandedly its obligations under Section 93 of the Government of India Act and the sooner the misrule of such a pusillanimous Government is replaced by some substitute savouring of popular control the better for the prospects of communal peace in this unhappy land." Incidents like the one at Bhagalpur show vividly how the situation in India may get from bad to worse in the absence of a political settlement, unless bureaucratic tactics are counteracted by firm, organised action by the people.

John Bull In Person

There was something dramatic and almost thrilling about Mr. Churchill's appearance in the United States Senate. As a demonstration of Anglo-American unity it had greater significance than the mid-Atlantic meeting or even the White House Conference between the Premier and the President. Here was the head of one democracy talking direct to the elected representatives of another democracy. Here was John Bull in person addressing the sons of Uncle Sam. In this one moment all the sentiments of Anglo-American unity, 'hands across the seas', Democratic Solidarity and Anti-Nazism, were crystallized and personified in the stocky figure of the British Premier standing on the rostrum. His words, too, were carefully chosen to emphasize these sentiments. But, otherwise, there was nothing much either new or sensational in what Mr. Churchill spoke. At the Press Conference held earlier Mr. Churchill had already given an insight into his mind and his Senate speech was characterized by the same cautious optimism.

In one respect, however, his speech has significance. His references to the future relations between Great Britain and the United States reveal that the President and the Premier have actually been discussing a plan of post-war collaboration between their two countries. This is at once a hopeful sign and a frightening possibility. Closer and more collaboration between Britain and U.S.A. after the war can mean either the foundation of a better and peaceful world order or the emergence of a super double-barrelled Anglo-American imperialism.

Cowardly And Cruel

To save the civilian population as much as possible from air and land attack, the Philippines Army Headquarters declared Manila an open city. This was a sequel to the landing of overwhelming Japanese forces which were closing in on the capital from all sides. The city and the port had been bombed again and again and to avoid unnecessary slaughter of non-combatants—women and children—it was decided to give up defence and leave the city to be peacefully occupied by the Japanese invaders. But the Japanese are not out for mere military victories. They are out to spread terror and destruction. They are continuing to bomb the defenceless city. It is an act of cowardly, cold-blooded brutality. As Mr. Cordell Hull very pertinently remarks, "the Japanese, in bombing the open city of Manila, had been practising the same barbaric methods of cruelty and inhumanity which Hitler had been using in Europe." It is not surprising that at this demonstration of callous barbarism the indignant citizens of Manila should have demanded a fight to the finish and a revocation of the declaration of Manila as an open city. It may not be possible at this stage for Filippino authorities to resume the defence of the capital but neither Filippinos nor Americans are likely to forget or forgive this orgy of blood-shed. American Legislators have already declared that when the United States gathered the full force of its offensive might, Japan must pay in kind for the bombing of undefended Manila.

Frankly Speaking

Benghazi Recaptured

Indian units have once again distinguished themselves in the Middle East. Benghazi has been reoccupied without fighting. Commenting on the loss of Benghazi the Rome Radio says, "It is certainly painful for the Italian people to hear for the second time that Benghazi has fallen into the hands of the enemy." We can imagine the discomfiture of the Axis powers, particularly Italy, at losing this all-important strategic position. When the Italians, with German help, had recaptured it from the British there was much rejoicing in the Axis ranks. Now the tables have once again been turned. In Libya General Rommel's forces have been on the run for some time. Derna and Mekli have fallen before the British advance. 13,000 German and Italian prisoners have been taken and the Axis armies are retreating everywhere. Whatever the situation in other theatres of war, the Allies have almost established complete supremacy in the Middle East. And it is significant that Indian soldiers are playing such a decisive role.

Students' Conferences

Two conference of students, both claiming to represent the whole of India, have been or are being held at Patna, one under the presidentship of Mr. Yusuf Meherally and the other of Mian Iftikharuddin. If the two differ on principles, one may regret the differences but cannot help them. But if the differences are more personal than of principles, they can be composed if the students' leaders are serious about it and make earnest efforts for unity. In a message to one of the conferences Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru rightly thinks it odd that the Presidents of the two Conferences, both comrades, should be associated with rival organisations and adds: "It seems to me that it should be their first job, as well as that of the students, to put an end to this unseemly state of affairs." If Pandit Jawaharlal and the two Presidents meet and make a joint effort, it will be worth while and it is likely to end this unseemly state of affairs.

Co-operative Movement In Bihar

Official publications are often couched in such language, and conceal so much more than they reveal that it is difficult for the casual reader to assess the value of the facts that are presented in them. The last annual report on the working of Co-operative Societies in Bihar is an apt illustration of this observation. For ten years past discussions have taken place, time and again, in Bihar about the manner in which Government should assert in the rehabilitation of the movement in that Province. In the Review of the Co-operative Movement in India, 1939-40, recently published by the Reserve Bank of India, reference is made to the assistance extended by the Government of the Province for the rehabilitation of the movement. This assistance has taken the form of finance placed at the disposal of the Provincial Bank, the promise of further accommodation for the financing of crops, the grant of subsidies for defraying expenses and the assurance of making long term capital available to Central Banks to meet the claims of depositors. If one turns, however, to the report on the working of Co-operative Societies in Bihar for the year 1940 one finds no mention of decisions on any of these points or of the discussions that must have preceded the decisions. In fact, one may wonder why action on the part of Government should have been necessary. The figures, however, tell their own tale. It is seen, for instance, that the total collection in Central Banks amounted to 4.2 per cent of the total demand while in primary societies, repayments represented 7.45 per cent of the demand for principal and interest. Advances were similarly on a very restricted scale and the energies of the entire organization seemed to be concentrated on liquifying the frozen dues though without much success.

Cane-Growers' Societies

Apart from the decision of the Government of the Province to stand by the movement, the only redeeming feature of the year's working is the success that has attended the organization of cane-growers' societies. Some 800 societies of this type were registered during the year increasing their number to 1,096 societies. They had a membership of 37,144 cane-growers and sold 87,99,673 maunds of cane to sugar factories. Owing to the curtailment of production by the factories over 20 lakhs maunds of cane were converted into gur with the assistance of the societies. The societies are helpful in improving the quality and quantity of cane production and stimulating agricultural improvement in general. They protect the growers' interests in relation to the factories and also take in hand general welfare activities. Although these activities are carried on mostly under official auspices it is to be hoped that this new development will serve to revive interest in the Co-operative movement in the Province.

NEED FOR NEW DECLARATION

Liberal Conference Resolutions

MADRAS, Dec. 28.

With as many as ten resolutions on the agenda the National Liberal Federation resumed sitting for the third day this afternoon Sir Bijoy Prasad Singh Roy, presiding.

Sir Chimanlal Setalvad moved the first resolution relating to the war which runs:—

"The National Liberal Federation of India feels that the war of aggression started by Nazi Germany, supported by Fascist Italy and Imperial Japan has proved to be a great menace to freedom, peace and tranquillity in the world. The Federation is of the opinion that the forces of progress and justice in this conflict are represented by the Allied powers such as Great Britain, America, Soviet Russia and China.

The Federation feels that the present Far East war situation has brought India into the front line of the conflict and, therefore, appeals both to the Government and the people to view the situation realistically. And mobilised the resources of the country in men and material, to protect the lives of India's teeming millions from the imminent danger which threatens the country.

At the same time it feels that the unity between the Government and the people required for the necessary effort will not be possible unless a new psychological atmosphere is created by a change in the policy of His Majesty's Government towards India, which is urgently called for."

Plea For Unity

Sir Chimanlal said that the country was passing through very anxious times. With the entry of Japan into the war, the danger had come to the very door of India. One never knew when any of our towns might be attacked or bombed by sea or air. It seemed to him that the people had not yet awakened to the danger or to the seriousness of the situation." We are still quarelling amongst ourselves debating this question and that, Pakistan, separate electorates and Indians in Burma when Burmese are running away from Burma."

He felt that these questions should be put in cold storage for the time being and realising the real danger and gravity of the situation, India should take immediate measures such as they could to defend the country.

"Our interests" he declared, "are bound up with the interests of England and if England should fall, what would happen to India, her Dominion Status of Independence, Pakistan and all the rest of it? The resolution, therefore appealed to the people, to do all they can to join the war efforts in order to save their wives, children, home property and country. Unless this war is won, India would have a very bad time indeed.

India's Fate In Balance

Pt. Kunzru seconding the war resolution referred to the developments in the Far East, the utter helplessness of Malaya from the point of view of defence, the bombing of Rangoon and said the question was now being asked in this country as to what would be the fate of India in the near future.

In the circumstances he thought they must do the utmost for the maintenance of the security of their country and protection of the lives of their people.

India's Fate In Balance

The speaker regretted that Britain, notwithstanding the serious situation, was doing all she could to maintain her old policies unchanged and to continue her rule on the old basis.

Mr. K. Balasubramania Aiyar supported the resolution.

Mr. Barucha expressed the view that till last year they were in a position of bargaining with the British Government. Now the position had changed. They had to fight not for their independence, but for their very existence.

Mr. T. G. Gadre speaking on the resolution said that at the end of the war, India was bound to attain freedom and to help this consummation, Indians must join different branches of the army.

Mr. Burjor Shroff urged Mr. Churchill to understand the yearnings of the Indian mind and adopt a policy that would create the necessary psychological atmosphere. To his own countrymen, the speaker appealed not to do anything in the nature of political "hari kari."

Mr. P. N. Sapru said that while they abhorred Nazism, loathed Fascism and looked upon Imperial Japan as no better, in some respects even worse than the other two, it was necessary for them to make it clear that this ideological support and sympathy which India was prepared to offer to Britain wholeheartedly and fully without any mental reservation would not fructify unless Britain did the right thing by India.

He wanted freedom for India and he wished to feel that in fighting in this war he was fighting for India's freedom which was sacred to them.

The resolution was then put to the House and carried.

Plea For Indianised Govt.

Sir P. S. Sivaswami Iyer moved the next resolution relating to the constitution, which read:

"(a) The National Liberal Federation of India protests against the Prime Minister's speech excluding India from the scope of the Atlantic Charter and the recent speeches of Mr. Amery and Lord Linlithgow reiterating the determination of His Majesty's Government to make no change in their policy towards India.

"(b) The Federation while regarding the recent expansion of the Viceroy's Executive Council by the appointment of additional Indian members as a step in the right direction, considers it as entirely inadequate to meet the needs of the situation. It is of the opinion that the Central Government should be so reconstructed as to have a fully national character. The Executive Council should consist entirely of non-official Indians who should take charge of all portfolios including those of defence and finance. The reconstructed Government should deal with all questions of policy on the basis of joint responsibility, and the British Government should not ordinarily interfere with any policy that has the support of the Indianised Executive and the Central Legislature.

DECLARATION NEEDED

"(c) In regard to all inter-imperial and International matters the reconstructed Government should be treated on the same footing as Dominion Governments. The Federation further demands that in order to remove the doubts and apprehensions that have been created as to the genuineness of the intentions of His Majesty's Government regarding the future constitutional status of India, it should be immediately declared that India will enjoy the position of equality in regard to both status and functions with England and the Dominions within a period not exceeding two years after the conclusion of the war.

"(d) In the opinion of the Federation, the gravity of the International situation makes the acceptance of the demands put forward above. A matter of urgent importance. It is necessary at this juncture that the Government should take bold and statesmanlike steps to bring about unity between the people and the Government in the best interest of both India and England."

WANTED DEEDS NOT PROMISES

Sir P. S. Sivaswamy Iyer, explaining the scope of the resolution, referred to the expansion of the Viceroy's Executive Council as a move in the right direction and said the mere transfer of "harmless" portfolios would not meet with the needs of the situation.

He wanted the transferance of all portfolios to Indian non-officials.

CREATE CONFIDENCE AMONG INDIANS.

Sir Vithal Chandavarkar seconding the resolution said that

This was not the time when they could have incidents such as those at Bhagalpur but it was the time for taking the people, at least their leaders, into confidence and make the country realise that the war is a real war for the safety, prosperity and progress of India.

The Hon. Mr. P. N. Sapru supporting the resolution said that they had asked for an assurance that within a specified period India should be given Dominion Status. Dominion Status should be promised to India within two years of the termination of the war. Meanwhile India should be treated as a Dominion and India's representative at international conferences should have his authority from the National Government and not from the Secretary of State for India.

The House then adjourned for tea.

On resumption after tea Mr. C. R. Somayajulu pleaded for the immediate establishment of a national Government in India. He also expressed the view that the future constitution of India should be a Federal form of Government.

Mr. R. H. Kelkar said that at the end of the war India would be faced with numerous problems vitally affecting her future progress. We could not solve them on national lines unless representatives sitting at the Peace Conference on her behalf were men commanding the fullest confidence of the whole country and not members of the civil service.

The resolution was opposed by Mr. S. Sreenivasa Iyer Advocate of Madras, who contended that it was not consistent with national interests and that it would only strengthen "the Anglo-Muslim Axis" which he said was now operating in the country.

The resolution was thereafter put to vote and declared carried.

India's Defence Problem

Pundit H. N. Kunzru moved the following resolution on defence:—

"The National Liberal Federation reiterating its demand for a radical change in the defence policy of the Government feels that the war has shown that, for making adequate preparations for the security of India, it is essential that

(1) The defence portfolio should be entrusted to an Indian who commands the confidence of the people and

(2) The defence forces of India should be organised on a national basis.

It recognises that it has been made with regard to the manufacure of war materials but is thoroughly dissatisfied with the policy in other respects.

It urges in particular

(a) That the policy of Indianisation in all grades of the army, navy and air force should be implemented;

(b) That the classification of people as martial and non-martial should be given up and people must be recruited from all Provinces and classes to a greater extent than now."

Pt. Kunzru said that the war had shown that self-government had no meaning unless we had the power to maintain it. Our ability to help ourselves would depend to no small extent on the suggestions contained in the resolution. It was not merely Indians, but Australians and New Zealanders that were dissatisfied with the present state of defences. India had no Government of her own and therefore was not able to pursue a national defence policy. Everyone was dissatisfied with the existing situation. The resolution insists that defence forces of India should be placed on a war footing and completely nationalised. Our great misfortune had been that so far the shaping of policies had been in the hands of persons who were not sympathetic to our aspirations or unable to understand our problems from the national point of view. Hence the demand that steps should be taken even at this stage to secure the safety of India.

Dr. R. P. Paranjpye seconded the resolution. He said that in England there were civilian war Ministers. A civilian could bring into the administration a wider outlook. That was why in this resolution they emphasised the need for the appointment of a member in charge of Defence who could voice public opinion.

Mr. Naushir Bharucha supporting the resolution hoped the Government would realise the gravity of the present situation and revise their defence policy as suggested in the resolution.

The resolution was then put to vote and declared carried.

REVIEW CASES OF DETENUS

The Federation also passed a resolution without any discussion regarding the political prisoners, which stated that cases of persons detained under the Defence of India Act or under any other special powers of Government authorising the detention of persons without trial should be submitted to a Committee of High Court Judges in each province for review from time to time. The Federation adopted five more resolutions which were moved from the chair. The first of these urged the Government in order to win the confidence of Indians, it pressed on the Government to take advantage of the present conditions to foster the industrial development of the country, making special efforts to secure the establishment or expansion of the basic chemical and other industries under Indian control and management. It also pleaded for the establishment of small scale industries as well as development of shipbuilding, aircraft, automobile and other key industries.

CIVIL DEFENCE

The Federation called upon the Government to take effective steps for strengthening the civil defence organisations in the country and also advised the people to co-operate with the Government wholeheartedly in their efforts in this direction.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS

Are you acquainted with any man who flatters his wife?

* * *

Keep both eyes open on an enemy who wants to do you a favour.

* * *

When the worst comes to the worst it's up to us to make the best of it.

* * *

Few men are able to retain their self-conceit after they are married.

* * * *

Very often a genial man is one who enjoys fun and comfort at the expense of others.

* * *

When you hear a man say that married life is the only life, it is a sure sign that he has been married nearly a week.

TÊTE-A-TÊTE

WITHOUT COMMENT—

"Mr. Jinnah is reported to have made a gift of me to the Viceroy and of the Nawab Bahadur to the Governor of Bengal. This is characteristic of Mr. Jinnah, who usually deals with matters which are not his own, and with which he has no concern, he forgets that he lost all proprietory rights over both of us and that, therefore, his gift is meaningless in law. If he wants to make a gift he should choose two of his devoted followers, and I am sure they will be acceptable both to the Viceroy and to the Governor. Let me remind Mr. Jinnah that having been born on a Christmas Day, God almighty has made a gift of him to the British people. I can only tell him that we can no longer be the subject matter of gifts as both the Nawab Bahadur and I have made a gift of ourselves to the projas of Bengal."

—Mr. A. K. Fazlul Haq.

* * *

"The whole nation without exception", says Goebbels, "must share the burdens of the war."

This is supposed to imply that Goebbels would like to acquire for himself some of the medals worn by Goering.

* * *

"If at home there is a shortage of tobacco or cigarettes, people should not complain because they have to wait in queue for hours in order to obtain supplies. It is hard enough for a mother to see her son go to the front. How much harder it is for a woman who has already lost four sons not to lose her fifth and last son in the east."

—Goebbels.

Thank you, Herr Doktor! This is the best piece of propaganda you have ever written—anti-Nazi propaganda!

* * *

The British have fully recognized the independence of Lebanon.

All that we can say in comment is that Lebanon is not India.

* * *

"No Pakistan In Indian Music' declares a writer.

Has he never heard a melody of discordant notes?

ANIMALS GO A. R. P.

—Headline.

This sound like a libel on our all-too-human Wardens!

* * *

"Cure For Sleeplessness", promises a writer.

There is only one that we know of—sleep!

* * *

The Black-Out is to be intensified in Bombay city.

Can the local leading lights be persuaded to extinguish themselves?

* * *

In certain scheduled area near the sea-shore a total Black-Out will be imposed "between 12 midnight and 4-30 a. m."

But have they informed the likely invaders to observe these timings?

* * *

TO-DAY'S PRIZE HOWLERS

(1) Hitler is learning the American language in anticipation of an invitation to address the United States Senate.

(2) President Roosevelt has offered to bring back the prodigal U.S.A. into the British Empire but Mr. Churchill would not hear of it as it would only make Britain an island colony of Wall Street.

(3) Mr. Jinnah has threatened to start a Satyagraha campaign if the right to hold the session is not granted to the Hindu Mahasabha.

(4) The Liberal Federation has declared for complete Independence and proposes to start a training camp for Satyagrahis.

(5) If their demands are not conceded, the Liberals have threatened to fill jails—with Congressmen!

* * *

A very proper and careful old woman was engaging a new gardener.

"Have you a reference from your last place, my man?' she inquired.

"No, mum", replied the applicant. "They wouldn't give me one."

"Why?"

"Oh," answered the man, absently, "I hit one of the warders."

DANGERS

"Nay, it were better to meet some dangers half way, though they come nothing near, than to keep too long a watch upon their approaches; for if a man watch too long, it is odds he will fall asleep"—BACON, *ESSAYS.*

CITIZENS OF MANILA DEMAND 'FIGHT TO THE FINISH'

Call For Revocation Of Declaration Of Capital As Open City

MANILA December 28.

Demands for a "fight to the finish" were voiced on all sides by indignant citizens of Manila as they watched fires caused by Japanese raiders sweep through dry wooded buildings of the city.

They called for a revocation of the declaration of Manila as an open city and for troops and anti-aircraft batteries to be brought back to defend the city.

Japanese raiders came over in groups of nine, eight and seven striking on one target after another and wheeling back to strike again whenever they missed the first time.

50 Killed In Raids

There are now known to be 50 dead from the raids and nobody is venturing to guess how many more may be buried under the wrecked and flaming buildings. A conservative estimate of the damage has placed it at the least at 2,500 thousand dollars.

Defenders Outnumbered

Reinforcements are reliably reported to have been dispatched to both northern and southern Luzon fronts, where the outnumbered Philippine defenders are battling against the Japanese invaders.

Radio listeners in Manila on Saturday evening heard the Tokyo Radio broadcast a message to the Philippine President, Doctor Manuel Quezon, stating that the Japanese would agree to consider Manila an open city on the condition that the Philippine army "co-operate with the Japanese Army and cease all resistance."

Filipino listeners greeted the announcement with laughter.

"Barbaric Methods Of Cruelty"

The Secretary of State Mr. Cordell Hull declared that the Japanese in bombing "the open city of Manila had been practising the same barbaric methods of cruelty and inhumanity which Hitler had been using in Europe."

Legislators declared on Saturday that when the United States gathered the full force of its offensive might, Japan must pay in kind for the bombing of undefended Manila. Senator Norris described the Japanese attack as "the worst form of barbarism." He expressed what appeared to be the general sentiment when he asserted that the Japanese had disregarded all rules of warfare and in turn could claim no immunity under such rules. He added, "Their cities are open to attack. When we are ready, we could burn them off the face of the earth and that is what they are coming to."—Reuter.

Americans At Swatow And Amoy Taken Into Custody

WASHINGTON:—Americans at Swatow and Amoy have been taken into custody by the Japanese according to information reaching the State Department.

Successful Ambush Of Enemy Troops

(Continued from page 1)

panese have begun what looks like a determined resumption of their drive southward in Malaya. Ipoh is their next main objective, and their attempt to capture this position is now in full swing. An advanced Japanese force has been contacted to-day (Sunday) in the Chemor area. Chemor town, on the main road and railway, is only ten miles due north of Ipoh. From Chemor, a number of secondary roads lead to the various Ipoh tin mines and Ipoh itself. The Japanese attack here, however, was beaten off with severe loss. At other points of this front, Japanese are attempting to cross the Perak river.

The British artillery, presumably situated on advantageous hills dominating the river, are keeping up a relentless barrage to hamper such a crossing.

Malaya's "Tin Capital", the town of Ipoh, is suffering from almost incessant Japanese air-raids. There have been eighteen raids during the last four days.

Japanese Count On Blanja

The Japanese presumably intend to try to force the Perak river at Blanja, but it is assumed that the pontoon bridge which existed there has been destroyed. With the monsoon in progress, the river at this time of the year is generally in flood and crossing this 400 yard wide stretch of water should thus present a formidable obstacle. It should be possible at least to delay the Japanese crossing long enough to enable the British Imperial Troops defending Ipoh to avoid being cut off.

Japanese Raid New Guina

Australian planes encountered a small Japanese cruiser off Minahassa and scored direct hits on the cruiser's stern causing a fire. Japanese planes bombed and machine-gunned several places on Minahassa peninsula on Sunday morning without causing much damage. Houses, shops and offices were destroyed, when Japanese raided Sorong on the north coast of New Guina on Sunday. Many fires are still blazing there, one person was killed and the number of injured is not yet established.

Twenty persons were killed, and forty were wounded during the Japanese raid on Medan. The office of the Royal Netherlands Indies Airline received a direct hit, and one plane about to take off was burned out.

NO DANGER TO MADRAS

Govt. Against Hasty Evacuation At Present

MADRAS, Dec. 27.

The Government understands says a Press Note issued to-day by the Government of Madras (Public Department), that there is considerable misgiving among certain sections of the public in Madras as to the danger to be feared from the present situation in the Far East and that some of the more affluent citizens have already begun to evacuate their wives and families to places which they consider to be safer than Madras such as Conjeevaram.

The Government wish to impress upon all sections of the public that at the present moment there is no threat to Madras of such gravity as to warrant any measure of evacuation either voluntary or compulsory. The Government are organising carefully prepared schemes to deal with evacuation should that become necessary and in such an event they will notify the public, in good time, of the desirability of their leaving Madras.

For the present there is no harm if those who have friends or relations in other parts of the Province, to whom they can go or send their families for safety in the event of a grave emergency, to make preliminary arrangements so that when such a state of emergency actually arises they will be ready to move with the least possible delay.

In the meantime the Government wish to impress upon everyone the necessity of keeping calm and not giving credence to unfounded rumours of an alarmist nature.

DON'T WITHHOLD STOCKS

They also wish to express disapproval of the action taken by certain merchants in withholding stocks in order to raise prices and they trust that they will have the fullest co-operation of the public in seeing that every day life of the community is carried on in a completely normal manner.

Authorised A. R. P. In Ahmedabad

AHMEDABAD, Dec. 23.

"There is only one authorised A. R. P. organisation in Ahmedabad. This is the Government organisation under the control of Mr. Haslam, declares Mr. G. G. Drewe, Collector of Ahmedabad, in the course of a "warning" to the people.

He states: "No other organisation has any legal standing whatever. It will not be able to work during air raids as only authorised members of the A. R. P. organisation will be able to move about freely and render necessary help and use the telephone service and essential services effectively. People who desire to serve the public should join the authorised A. R. P., services, and not be misled by any other organisation claiming to do such work."—A. P.

SARAT BOSE IN MADRAS

MADRAS, Dec. 28.

Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose who was arrested at Calcutta on December 12 under the Defence of India Rules was brought here this morning by the Calcutta Mail.

Mr. Bose was detrained at Basin Bridge next to Madras Central Station. It is understood that he will be taken to Trichy to be detained in the Central Jail there.—United Press.

Cocanada Reception To Mrs. Pandit

LUCKNOW, Dec. 27.

A rousing reception was accorded to Mrs. Vijyalakshmy Pandit President-Elect of the All-India Women's Conference at the Cocanada Town Railway station on arrival yesterday.

Yuvarani Saheba of Pithapuram, Chairwoman, Mrs. Urmila Mehta, Conference Secretary, Mrs. Kameswaramma, Reception Secretary and a large number of ladies and distinguished citizens including the Yuvaraja of Pithapuram greeted Mrs. Pandit.

Mrs. Pandit then motored to Pithapuram Raja's bungalow accompanied by Mrs. Rameshwari Nehru and others.—A. P

Spinning Competition At S. I. A.

In celebration of the first anniversary of the inauguration of the Charkha Section of the South Indian Association, a spinning competition will be held at the Association premises, Telaug Road, Matunga, on Sunday, 4th January between 8 and 9 a.m. Intending competitors are requested to give their names at the Association, or Charkha Club Nappoo Hall or the A.I.S.A. Khadi Bhandar at Matunga. Competitors have to bring their own Charkhas and Winders.

SURESH ROY'S CONDITION PRECARIOUS

BHAGALPUR, Dec. 27.

Mr. Suresh Roy of Dacca who received injuries last evening is lying in hospital. His condition is reported to be precarious.—United Press.

150 ARRESTED PERSONS LET OFF

BHAGALPUR, Dec. 27.

Persons arrested at Bhagalpur since the evening of the 25th December are being taken four or five miles away from the town and let off. One hundred and fifty prisoners who were taken to Patna on the 25th December were let off there. Thereafter some of them again came to Bhagalpur.—United Press.

BHAGALPUR'S LESSON TO NATIONALISTS

BENARES, December 27.

Maharajkumar Sir Vijaya of Vizianagram in the course of a statement says:—

Our masters' gesture at Bhagalpur reminds one of what Mahatma Gandhi said years ago, that India was a vast prison house and so it remains. Why I ask, did an Indian majority allow the Bhagalpur performance to take place. Let it at least dawn on us now that even after complete Indianisation of the Executive Council.

We shall be no better off unless the Central Executive is responsible to the Legislature either at the Centre or the Provincial Legislatures. The Bhagalpur affair is a lesson, that should stand us in good stead."

JAPANESE DRESSED AS MALAYS

INGAPORE, December 28.

A Sunday communique states "on the Perak Front, our forces are in contact with the enemy. There has been patrol activity around Blanja in the Chemor area, and an enemy attack was beaten off with severe losses. Our artillery has been harassing enemy lines of communications interfering with his efforts to cross Perak River. Some armed Japanese dressed as Malays were captured yesterday. During the night our aircraft carried out a very successful bombing attack on the Sungei Paadi aerodrome. At least ten aircraft were completely destroyed on the ground and a number of others damaged. Some buildings were destroyed and many fires started. A heavy explosion occurred and the resultant fire could be seen by the crews of the returning aircraft at a distance of fifty miles. All our aircraft returned safely."

A successful ambush of Japanese troops is revealed in an official statement which says "an account has been received of a very successful action in northern Perak on the night of December 22/23. An ambush was laid for an enemy force which was known to be approaching our position. Enemy scouts on bicycles were allowed to pass unmolested, so that the main body following should fall into the trap. The action proceeded as planned, and the enemy's main body came under very heavy fire and about thirty bodies were counted on the road, an enemy mortar was knocked out and our artillery fired with considerable effect on enemy troops further to the rear.

After this reverse, the enemy attempted an outflanking movement. This had been foreseen, and a similar ambush had been laid. Again thirty enemy dead were counted. Some of the Japanese started to climb trees to escape our fire. They were allowed to complete their climb and were then picked off by our snipers. During the course of this most successful action, our troops suffered no casualties whatever".

Patrol Engagements North Of Ipoh

SINGAPORE, Dec. 28.

Sungei Siput, 25 miles north of Ipoh, where patrol engagements were reported on Friday has been the scene of further engagements.

This time contact with "enemy in force" indicated engagements of a bigger nature than a mere clash between patrols. It is thought probable that reinforcements which, it has been known for some time, the Japanese were bringing up to the Ipoh front are now getting into position and the lull in the fighting in north-west Malaya which has lasted nearly a week is likely to be broken shortly.

Our troops have not wasted the time afforded by this important breathing spell. Apart from resting and reorganising, they have plans to acquaint themselves fully with the Japanese tactics which, it is admitted, came as a surprise.—Reuter.

'Scorched' Earth Policy

A sense of dreadful unreality hung over this pleasant green land as press correspondents, making a fantastic Christmas day journey to Malaya front drove towards the main fighting zone along the Perak river, near Kuala Kangsar, says Reuter's Special Correspondent. "We met a thin stream of chinese refugees moving impassibly black. Women trudged along the roads with babies slung over their backs or carrying heavy loads in wicker baskets on long sticks. Others passed with household goods piled high on rickshaws and ox carts. One amusing sight was an aged and wrinkled Chinese with a very modern barber's chair piled on a rickshaw. We saw deserted luxury bungalows and European country clubs, but the "scorched earth policy" was well in evidence. The task of destroying ten million rubber trees which crowd this west coast area seems almost insuperable, but every town and village likely to fall into enemy hands has been systematically destroyed, however, and all foods and drink removed or destroyed, building burned and bridges demolished."—Reuter.

Lucky Escape From Enemy Troops

Somewhere on the north Malayan front:—The most amazing of the many escape stories coming from the Malaya front was told to me by four British officers who have just reached safety after a hair-raising twelve-day journey. The officers consisted of two captains, one Lieut. of a famous English regiment and one English Captain of an Indian regiment. All four separated from their units in the confused jungle fighting in the north of Kedah near the border of Thailand. The four officers joined forces and decided to try and reach the coast. With the aid of one compass, but no maps they spent three days groping through dense jungle and dodging enemy troops. They finally reached the coast where they found an abandoned Chinese Sampan. They managed to navigate the Sampan to Penang which was heavily bombed as they neared the coast. After hiding a whole day in Penang, the officers took to the sea again in a Chinese junk. Six days out of Penang, on Christmas day, a British naval patrol spotted and picked up the escapees.

"They gave us a bottle of whisky and wished us a merry Christmas" said one officer. "We spent five foodless days except for a few handful of rice, but now we are going back to get re-equipped and rejoin our units".

The officers showed little sign of their ordeal, except for long unkept beards. Their adventures were not yet over, however. I met the same officers a few hours later. During the interval they had been machine-gunned by Japanese planes, while travelling southward in a small car, but all emerged unscathed.

Pownall Can't Work Miracle Overnight

SINGAPORE, Dec. 28.

The Straits "Times" in an editorial on the appointment of Gen. Pownall described him as "an excellent choice to succeed a man who has served the Empire with distinction since 1898" (Sir Robert Brooke-Popham).

"But it is not expected that Gen. Pownall will achieve miracles overnight."

Deprecating criticisms of Sir Robert Brooke-Popham in some English and Australian newspapers which "demanded that his head should be delivered on a charger and no doubt will proceed to compliment themselves on the acceptance of their advice", the Straits 'Times' says that Malaya owes a great deal to Sir Robert adding "although the state of preparedness which had been reached during the period of his command was not sufficient to repel the attack made upon us, it represented a tremendous advance on conditions which prevailed, when he arrived in November last year."—Reuter.

JAP. PUPPET IN MALAYA

(From Our Correspondent.)

LONDON, Dec. 28.

The Japanese had a political observer attached to the German Army when they were advancing in Russia.

The Japanese political machine was studying closely his reports and applying some of his conclusions in Malaya to the newly conquered territory.

According to this observer one main cause of Hitler's failure in Russia is that he was not quick enough to establish civil administration with help from German elements in occupied Russia.

To avoid such mistake the Japanese are reported in Singapore to have appointed as High Commissioner for the Malay States Saravan Mattu, editor of the "Straight's Echo", an English daily.

He is a Ceylonese and thus a British subject.

Appointments of various other Asiatics are also announced from the Penang radio, which is now under Japanese control.

Twice on the Christmas day the Japanese used the Penang radio to wish Singapore a merry Christmas, the announcer adding "I hope you will be alive for a happy New Year."

Boasted, He Would Never Be Captured Alive!

PRETORIA, Dec. 27.

Mr. Robey Liebrandt, Member of a Saboteur Gang believed to be connected with the bomb explosion on the Johannesburg-Lourenco Marques Railway line on December 14 was captured by the police to-day while travelling by car to Johannesburg.

He was taken by surprise and was unable to draw his revolver. He had boasted that the police would never capture him alive.—Reuter.

Nazi Youth Division Flees In Panic

SOVIET ADVANCE AFTER FIERCE ENCOUNTERS

Red Army Fights Germans With Their Own Weapons

LONDON, Dec. 28.

"Moscow and its armoury, Tula, have been freed from immediate danger", announced the Moscow radio to-day reviewing the progress made between December 19 and 26.

Nazis Thrown Back

Stating that the enemy has been thrown back between forty and sixty miles and that advances have been made on the northern sector in the Volokolamsk direction and in the southern sector to south-west of Tula, the announcer said that Russian forces had formed wedges into enemy occupied territory.

Germans Withdrawn

Although German resistance was most stubborn on Mojaisk and Maloyaroslavets, Russian advances north and south of this part of the front had placed the enemy in a dangerous position so that the Germans had been withdrawn from this sector.

ON KALININ FRONT

Nazi Youth Division Flees In Panic

MOSCOW, Dec. 28.

Russian troops under General Konev continue to push the Germans back on the Kalinin front, says a despatch from the front today. In attempting to stem the Russian advance, the Germans have thrown in fresh units formed from the personnel of auxiliary services. A division composed of youth aged 17 and 18 appeared in one sector, but "under the first blows of our troops the youths fled in panic abandoning arms and equipment."

REDS FIGHT WITH NAZI WEAPONS

The despatch says:—"Roads westward and south-westward along which the Germans are retreating are littered with arms and machines. Near one village the Germans have abandoned a whole column of lorries in good condition and with petrol. A heavy battery with a supply of shells has been abandoned near another village. In village "N" were found twenty motor-cycles in good condition on which they continued to pursue the enemy."

Fierce Fighting

The Soviet mid-day 'communique' states that there was fighting on all fronts throughout the night.

A supplement to the Soviet 'communique' on Sunday states: "Our units operating on one of the sectors of the south-western front are engaged in fierce fighting with the enemy and are successfully advancing and have occupied a number of inhabited localities.

They captured a number of lorries, fifty cases of ammunition and a munition dump. Peasants of the village "N" being liberated captured from the Germans, took an active part in the fighting against the Fascists.

A prisoner in our hands, Lieutenant Walter Kieren, of the Sixty-third Regiment of the Fifty-second Tanks Division, stated that since the opening of the Russian campaign his company lost three Commanders, two of whom were seriously wounded and one killed".

Saturday's night 'communique' stated: "During 27th December, our troops fought the enemy on all fronts. In a number of sectors of fronts our troops continued their advance, fighting the enemy, and occupied a number of populated places, including the towns of Likhavin, Vysokinichi, Novoxil, and Tim. Our ships sank three transports in the Barentz sea."

Likhavin, is 25 miles south of Kaluga on the Moscow front. Novoxil is 40 miles east of Orel. Tim is 40 miles east of Kursk, south of Orel.

Berlin Claim

BERLIN:—A German 'communique' states strong Russian attacks have been halted in the Central sector.

Three Russian transports were sunk and a gunboat and four other ships damaged in the Kerch Straits by bombers.

The 'communique' further says that in the southern sector of the eastern front the enemy who made a few local breaches in the German positions was thrown back.

QADIAN (Punjab) Dec. 27: A call to the Ahmadiyya community to offer their wholehearted co-operation in the prosecution of the war was made by Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad, head of the Ahmadiyya community, addressing the Ahmadiyya Annual Conference to-day.—A. P.

Gen. Rommel Turns & Gives Battle Again

BUT BR. TROOPS HURLED AGAINST NEW LINE

R. A. F. Raids Bardia & Tripoli: Big Fires And Explosions

CAIRO, Dec. 28.

General Rommel has turned to fight again.

BRITISH TROOPS ATTACK NEW LINE

Reuter's special correspondent at the Eighth Army battle headquarters writes:—

General Rommel has turned and is at bay again in the Agedabia area, a hundred miles south of Benghazi, where he straddles the main Tripoli road. Leading British troops, including one of the most famous regiments in the British Army, have already thrown themselves against General Rommel's new line. Apart from the dogged determination of the Afrika Corps to delay us as much as possible, the enemy is showing little fight. The Italians who are now mostly north of Agedabia, now scarcely count as a fighting force.

AXIS AIR FORCE STILL ACTIVE.

Units of the German-Italian air force which retreated in the direction of Tripoli are still showing small signs of activity and bombers based on Crete and Greece are now being used to attack our lines of communication. One such bomber carrying a consignment of Christmas luxuries for the Germans, still resisting around Sollum and the Halfaya pass, obligingly dropped them on Christmas eve by a parachute among the British troops.

Pressure On Jedabya Area

Sunday's Middle East 'communique' states:—

"Yesterday our forces intensified their pressure on the enemy in the Jedabya area. The area between Benghazi and Jedabya is now almost clear of enemy forces and such small parties as remain are being steadily mopped up. Still more enemy motor transport and petrol tank waggons were destroyed by our air forces yesterday at and south-west of Jedabya.

Tripoli Attacked: Big Fire In Harbour

An R.A.F. Middle East communique on Sunday states: "A strong force of the Royal Air Force and Free French Bomber aircraft attacked objectives within Bardia perimeter on December 27. Hits were scored on pillboxes and gunnery defence positions as well as on motor transport vehicles, barracks buildings, and fires broke out.

During the night of the 26-28th December Bomber aircraft raided two merchantships in the harbour at Zuara on the coast of Tripolitania. A hit was obtained on one ship which blew up with a violent explosion. Store dumps the town were also bombed.

The harbour at Tripoli was again attacked, bombs falling on ships in the port and large fires being started near the Spanish fort. Aircraft also machine-gunned an enemy transport moving from Tripoli towards Homes.

Further details are now available of a raid carried out on Tripoli during Wednesday night (24-25 December). A number of violent explosions took place on the Spanish quay, while a motor transport, military huts and shipping were machine-gunned. Bombs were also dropped on a group of enemy naval units to the north-west of the town. Results being unobserved.

Enemy aircraft were active over the approaches to Malta on December 27, but were intercepted by our fighters which shot down one Junkers 88. From these and other operations one of our aircraft is missing, but the pilot safe.

DUSSELDORF ATTACKED

Raid On Enemy Shipping On Norwegian Coast

LONDON, Dec 28.

An Air Ministry 'communique on Sunday states: "Last night a powerful force of the Bomber Command attacked targets in Western Germany

At Dusseldorf, the main objective, industrial districts were heavily bombed and many fires left burning.

An aerodrome at Soesterberd in Holland was attacked, while enemy aircraft were landing and bombs were seen to burst on the runway.

Other forces attacked the Naval base at Brest and docks at Boulogne. Mines were laid in enemy waters.

Hudson aircraft of the Coastal Command last night bombed an aerodrome at Sola in Norway.

Seven aircraft of the Bomber Command are missing from thes operations."

RAID ON NORWEGIAN COAST

An Admiralty 'communique says: "On December 27 a small scale raid mainly against enemy shipping was carried out on the Norwegian coast by a combined force of the navy, army and air force. The operation was entirely successful in all respects and all our ships returned fit for immediate service. A further 'communique will be issued as soon as details are available."

ENEMY BOMBER DESTROYED

Another 'communique' issued today states: "An enemy bomber was destroyed last night by the gunfire of one of our convoys. No casualty or damage was suffered either by the ships in convoy or their escorts. There were no survivors from the enemy aircraft."—Reuter.

Enemy Aircraft Off Br. Coast

"A few enemy aircraf were off the south-west coast of England in the early part of last night. No bombs were dropped", says today's Air Ministry and Ministry for Home Security communique.—Reuter.

The Half-Column "By Dim."

Here is Reuter's news agency describing the new Commander-in-Chief, Lt. Gen. Sir Henry Royds Pawnall, on his arrival at Singapore to assume command. Says Reuter:

"The new Commander-in-Chief is 54 years of age, with medium height, a trim soldierly build, dark hair, a small dark moustache and grey eyes. He is precise in manner, but is always quiet and courteous. He has an amazing memory, is very well read, has a deep knowledge of military law, is sympathetic to subordinates, and away from the job, celebrated for delicious wit. He is renowed for imperturbability in times of stress.

Fond of skiing and fishing, Sir Henry is a successful golfer, particularly difficult to beat when luck is running against him."

May I respectfully draw the attention of this British news agency to the fact that we are in the third year of a most grim battle for existence and that public opinion can hardly be satisfied by the fact that the new C.-in-C for the Far East, where the situation is getting grimmer every day, has grey eyes and a small dark moustache or by the knowledge of his being able to play golf well, or that he is fond of ski-ing and fishing? I do not think I can ever remember so ridiculous a way of introducing a new C-in-C, specially when he is called up to take upon himself the arduous task of co-ordinating our forces in the Far East.

* * *

In town is Jit of Kapurthala who brings me the best story on Mussolini I have yet heard. It says that when a General returns from the Middle East, Mussolini sends for him and makes the General take off his boots and socks. Asked by his friends why he indulges in this strange ritual, Senor Mussolini is reported to have said: I can smell "defeet".

* * *

I notice from the "Journal of the Film Industry" that they are now giving (or perhaps have been giving for some time) suggestions for stories for long and short films. This is useful work and even though it may not always be possible to accept those suggestions, it is a step in the right direction in that an effort is being made to develop an important branch of film industry—story finding. I must also thank the editor for sending me regularly a complimentary copy of the journal. In fact I am receiving too much by way of complimentary literature—more than I can cope with.

* * * *

In Sunday's issue of the "Bombay Chronicle" appears an article on "Russell of *The Times*". There is a picture of Russell captioned: "His exposure of the conditions in which the British army in Crimea lived and fought—and died—turned out the British Government of the day."

I suppose that was in the days before the Defence of India Act.

Trainees Under Technical Training Scheme

NEW DELHI, Dec. 27.

The Government of India have decided that trainees under the technical training scheme who enrol in the Defence services before the completion of their training in accordance with the prescribed syllabus should be eligible to return to selected training centres and complete their training on the existing terms on being discharged from the services at the end of the war, says a press note.

For this purpose, it has been tentatively decided that the training scheme should be continued for a period of 18 months on the conclusion of the war.

Arrangements are being made to register those trainees who wish to take advantage of this decision.—A. P.

MR. M. S. ANEY.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 27.

Mr. M. S. Aney, Overseas Member, Government of India, arrives here on January 2 and leaves for Delhi on January 6.—United Press.

PRICE CONTROL AT PURI.

PURI, Dec. 27.

In order to control the high prices of food-stuffs and other commodities at Puri, Rai Saheb M. N. Basu, Collector of Puri, has, in consultation with local merchants, fixed the prices of most of the essential articles.—A. P.

Externment Order Follows Detention!

Bengal Minister's Charge Against Bihar Government

COLGONG, Dec. 27

Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukerjee in a statement says:—

"I left Calcutta for Bhagalpur on the evening of December 24 accompanied by a number of delegates from Bengal to attend the Hindu Mahasabha session. When the train reached Colgong next morning several police officers entered my compartment and enquired where I was going. I was told by the officer in charge, who, I later understood, was the deputy superintendent of police of Bhagalpur, that I was required to get down at Colgong and not proceed to Bhagalpur. I enquired under whose order I was asked to do so. And I requested the officer to show me the order in original. It was not, however, handed over to me but it was read out and from this I found that I was being detained at Colgong and ordered not to proceed to Bhagalpur under Rule 26 Sub-Sec. (C) of the Defence of India Rules. The order further contained a desire on the part of the Bihar Government that I should immediately return to Bengal. When I found that my movement was being restricted under provision of the Defence of India Rules, I got down at Colgong as requested. I was brought to the Dak Bungalow along with Sjt. Padamraj Jain who was also asked not to proceed to Bhagalpur.

SECOND ORDER.

Later in the day, soon after I had my breakfast I was told by the police officer that he had been informed that an order has been passed against me under the Defence of India Rules externing me from Bihar from December 24 to December 28 and that I must comply with this order during the day as soon as possible. I was surprised to hear this and enquired the reasons for the second order. I demanded that I must be served with a written order.

I said that under the Defence of India Rules when I was already prevented from proceeding to Bhagalpur and detained at Colgong there was no question of my being externed from the entire Province of Bihar.

In these circumstances I refused to act according to the verbal order of the Deputy Superintendent of Police. I was supplied with a copy of the externment order from Bihar which was dated December 24. But actually handed over to me on December 26 at about eleven in the morning.

The order runs as follows:—

No. 5840-C Government of Bihar, Political Department Special Section. Patna December 24, 1941.

ORDER:—Whereas the Governor of Bihar is satisfied that with respect to the person known as Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee that with a view to preventing him from acting in a manner prejudicial to the public order it is necessary to make the following order:—

Now, therefore, in exercise of the power conferred by Clause C of Sub-Section 1, of Rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules the Governor of Bihar is pleased that the said Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee shall not be within the Province of Bihar from the 24th December to 28th December, 1941, inclusive.

By order of the Governor of Bihar.

J. W. Houlton. (Chief Secretary to Government).

I told the D. S. P. that the order was most unwarranted and humiliating and I was not going to act accordingly to it. And that the Bihar Government was welcome to do what it liked. Left to myself and if the externment order had not been made I would have proceeded to Calcutta or Madhupur or Santal Pargana, Bihar, where my family is staying. There is no question of my being forced to leave Bihar under the Defence of India Rules. This was communicated to the authorities on Friday and in the afternoon I was told by the D. S. P. that I should be kept detained at Colgong until further orders.

I find various reports in the newspapers about my detention and without making any comments now, which I shall do so in due course, I publish the above facts for general information.

SHYAMA PRASAD MUKHERJEE.

HINDU SABHA HOLDS SECOND SESSION

Moonje Awaits Savarkar's Instructions

BHAGALPUR, December 27.

The concluding session of the Hindu Mahasabha was held under the presidency of Mr. Ketkar, fourth dictator, at Devi Babu's Dharamsala at 3 p.m. The session passed off successfully without interruption.

The Commissioner's offer to Dr B. S. Moonje and other Mahasabha Executive Members of immediate release on giving an undertaking that they would not be engaged in future activity, it is said, has not been accepted till the command from Mr. Savarkar about it is received.

Mr. Malekar and Mr. O. D. Sen left today for Gaya to meet Mr. Savarkar for instructions about future action.

The following official account of the second day's sitting of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha session at Bhagalpur has been issued by Mr. Manorangan Choudhury, Assistant Secretary of the Bengal Provincial Hindu Mahasabha:

"According to previous arrangements, five batches of 'Prabhat Pherries' started from Debi Babu's Dharamsala this morning. Of these, one batch, consisting of about 500 delegates, mostly from Bengal, was led by Mr. Nagendranath Das Sharma and others. When this procession had reached Chawkbazar at about 8, the police asked the members of the party to disperse and on their refusal they were charged by the police resulting in injuries to several persons. Forty-seven delegates were arrested including Mr. Srikumar Mitra, Secretary of the Burdwan District Hindu Mahasabha. The arrested persons were escorted to the police outpost and were detained till about 12 noon, during which they held a meeting within the compound of the police outpost and passed resolutions. They were afterwards taken in a prison van to Sabour, about five miles from Bhagalpur, but were forced to get down at about 2 p.m. They returned very late in the afternoon to Bhagalpur.

The second day's session was held at about 10 a.m., in Deb Babu's compound under the presidentship of Lala Narayan Dutt.

Mr. S. L. Karandikar, M.L.A., (Bombay), Mr. Durga Prasad Pandya, Sardar Govind Prasad Dutt and the President addressed the meeting which later adopted several resolutions.

Several meetings were held and many processions taken out in various parts of the town. The mounted police force dispersed some of the gatherings, resulting in injuries to many.

At about 4 p.m., today about a thousand persons were proceeding in a procession with Hindu Sabha flags, shouting slogans, when in front of the Palace Hotel, the police ordered them to stop. The processionists, however, squatted on the road and tried to hold a meeting there. On the command of an officer, the mounted police rushed on the men squatting, who then took shelter in adjoining houses.—A. P.

Air Mail Service To Andamans

NEW DELHI, Dec. 27.

With immediate effect, an Air-mail service to and from the Andaman Islands has been introduced, says a "communique". The Air Mail fee at the Indian inland rate of one anna per tola for letters and half anna for post-cards will have to be paid in addition to the inland postage.—A. P.

(Continued from Col. 4)

Shri Upasani and his female devotees, prayers, "darshana", "bhajans", "kirtans", his "pravachans' and lectures used to engross the minds of the visitors there. Among his various Marathi publications, the five volumes known as "Upasani Vak Sudha" are prominent.

At the invitation of his devotees he visited various places all over India.

He has left behind him Sati Godavari to continue his mission, and she is assisted in her work by other female devotees.

STRANGE CAREER OF UPASANI MAHARAJ

Hindu 'Chela' Of Muslim 'Guru' Whose Name Has Become A Household Word In Maharashtra

(From A Correspondent)

The passing away a few days ago of Shri Upasani Maharaj, the well-known saint of Sakori, is mourned by a vast circle of his followers all over the country. As his name has become a household word in Western India, the following sketch of his career may be given.

Shri Upasani was born on the 16th of May, 1870 in the village of Satana, Nasik Dt., in an orthodox Brahmin family. During his boyhood he was marked out from others by his extraordinary devotional temperament and total indifference to worldly affairs. He left home for good when he was his teens, as he did not like to be a burden on his family, his father having died when he was nine years old.

Wandering through jungles many times without food and drink, he was attracted by a lonely cave a few miles away from Nasik, where he sat calmly waiting for his end. A few days passed in this way, when all of a sudden he lost his physical consciousness. In this state he remained for a long time. When he gained consciousness, he was unable to move and after great efforts he managed to catch hold of the branch of a tree, but he could not retain his hold for long and he slipped down the valley known as Gavalvadi. The villagers pitying his skeleton-like condition took him under their care and nourished him.

In this manner, Shri Upasani Maharaj passed his days till the age of thirty. He then took to the study of Ayurvedic medicine, and after some time began to practise at Umraoti. His humane treatment of his patients won him a high reputation. He edited a periodical in Marathi pertaining to Ayurvedic medicine and hygiene with great success.

MEETS SAI BABA

At the age of forty he began to suffer from an ailment connected with the breathing system. He tried prominent physicians but to no avail; as a last resource he was advised to go to Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi in Ahmednagar District. Sai Baba being a Mahomedan, Shri Upasani was loathe to pay him homage, but somehow he was destined to do so. His physical ailment abated under the presence of Shri Sai Baba and this inspired some confidence in Shri Upasani. Sai Baba then ordered him to sit in a lonely ruined temple of Khandoba lying on the other side of the village. The detailed account of the series of tests he had to undergo and the enormous hardships which he had to suffer for becoming fit for the high spiritual legacy of Shri Sai Baba are of such a nature that it would make even a hard-hearted man weep. During this period by the help of the Great Master Shri Upasani attained a high degree of spiritual perfection.

At the completion of the ordained period of four years, Dr. Pillay, a devotee of Shri Sai Baba, took Shri Upasani to Nagpur. After recovering his health here Shri Upasani went to Khadagpur. Shri Upasani was desirous of a solitary retreat, but people flocked round him in large numbers as they were attracted by his personality and spiritual exhortations.

RESIDES IN BURIAL GROUND

He then returned to Shirdi and after some time he made his permanent residence in the burial ground at Sakori, three miles away. He sat there in a cage for more than three years locked from outside. Within a short time his fame spread far and wide and people of all communities and ranks began to flock to the place to pay him homage. At present a magnificent temple and several buildings as well as chawls are giving the appearance of a decent colony in a site formerly used as burial and cremation ground.

Among the many festivals that are celebrated throughout the year, Makar Sakrati and Guru Purnima are the foremost. Thousands of devotees from all parts of India used to go to Sakori throughout the year to pay their homage to him. Besides great Yagnas performed personally by

(Continued in Col. 3)

The late Shri Upasani Maharaj.

Amir Ali Pats Jinnah's Back

(From Our Correspondent.)

LONDON, Dec. 28.

Mr. M. A. Jinnah's viewpoint in his exclusive interview to the "News Chronicle" which in fact warned the British Government against making a fresh declaration as suggested by Sir George Schuster and Mr. Edward Thompson and later supported by the "Times", has found support in a letter by Mr. Wazir Amir Ali published in the "Times" to-day.

He says: "As for suggestion for enlarged cabinets in the provinces these administrations have been topheavy since the Montagu Reforms and it is doubtful if a yeoman or peasant even knows the names of Ministers, unless they are of his own caste.

"In the United Provinces the resignation of the Congress Government in 1939, after greatly increasing the provincial deficit, was greeted with relief by most people.

"The declaration advocated by Sir Stanley Reed may this time be most unsettling to the Indians in the service whether they are Princes or peasants. It would be interpreted as handing over their destiny to the minority,—their more nimble-witted and non-martial fellow countrymen, in the main urban literates—mostly Caste Hindus".

Mr. Wazir Amir Ali is a retired I.C.S. He is at present in the War Liaison Office in the India House.

Muslim Students Line Up With League

NAGPUR, Dec. 27.

The fifth annual session of the All-India Muslim Students' Federation concluded to-night after passing numerous resolutions.

The main resolution reads: "This session, while deploring the failure of the Government to make a satisfactory response to the offer made by the Muslim League for the active and wholehearted association of the Muslims of India with intensification of war efforts and the defence of India, appreciates the assurances given by Mr. Amery and the Viceroy in their recent speeches regarding the framing of the future constitution of India. The Federation, however, wishes to sound a note of warning that any repetition of the infamous so-called gentleman's agreement between the Congress and the Government and the return, of single party Congress Ministries without a previous settlement with the Muslim League would lead to a very grave crisis."

By other resolutions the Federation demanded the release of all political prisoners of all parties, including Alama Mashriqi, condemned the action of Mr. Fazlul Huq and the Nawab of Dacca and appreciated the stand taken by League and Scheduled Caste members, demanded the making of the Bombay University's syllabus acceptable to Muslims and demanded the enactment of the Bengal Secondary Education Bill as it emerged out of the last session.

Messages of sympathy were read from Sir Mohd. Yakub and Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan.—A. P.

MUTT AND JEFF—There May Be Gold Diggers But Jeff Is Just a Prospector By BUD FISHER

WHAT CHA MEAN-WATCH MY STEP?
YA GOTTA BE CAREFUL! SOME OF THESE DAMES THAT VISIT CAMP MIGHT BE GOLD DIGGERS!
HERE COMES ONE NOW! SHE'S A GOLD DIGGER! I KNOW THE TYPE! SHE SPENDS THE DOUGHBOY'S DOUGH!
SAY, SARGE, CAN YA GIMME ABOUT TWO MONTHS ADVANCE ON ME PAY?
?
9-2

FLY to Delhi
Rs. 75 Two services a week each way.
to Trivandrum
Rs. 100 One service a week each way via Goa and Cannanore.
TATA AIR LINES
TATA SONS LIMITED
Booking Office: Opp Churchgate Station, Telephone 24591 or Thos. Cook & Son, Ltd.—or any Travel Agent.

I WARN YOU.. ASK FOR
PASSING SHOW
AND REFUSE IMITATIONS
PASSING -SHOW-
GOLDEN VIRGINIA
PURE NATURAL CORK TIPPING, CRANULATED AND CLEANSED HYGIENICALLY. FREE FROM ALL BLEMISHES.
● The soothing quality of Passing Show is a splendid tonic. Their pure Virginia Tobacco quickly refreshes tired nerves and benefits your general health. You'll get greater smoking pleasure, too, from Passing Show.
2½ ANNAS FOR 10
GOLDEN IN COLOUR GOLDEN IN QUALITY
PSC/69

TRADE AND FINANCE

Another Rise In Note Circulation

Influx Of Funds From Far-East

GREATER GOLD ARRIVALS

Weekly Market Reviews

Bombay, December 24

MONEY.

There was fair demand for money throughout the period under review. Some influx of funds from the Far Eastern war zone in the local maket was also noticeable. Call money was quoted at 1 per cent and three to six months' money around 1 1/2 per cent. The discount rate of three months' Government of India Treasury Bills moved up to Re. 1 from Re. 0-15-9 per cent. During the week, the sale of intermediate bills amounted to Rs. 1,93 crores, representing a substantial advance over the past few weeks.

The weekly statement of the Reserve Bank of India, for the period ended 19th December, records another spectacular rise of Rs. 7.81 crores in the active note circulation in India and an increase of Rs. 7.36 crores in the total note issue. Sterling Securities held by the Bank are up by Rs. 8 crores, but the Bank's holding of Rupee Coin has shrunk by Rs. 64.30 lacs. In the Banking Department, there is an all-round decrease in the various Deposits; Government Deposits show a decline of Rs. 46.97 lacs, Bankers' Balances have dropped by Rs. 70.54 lacs, whilst Sundry Deposits also show a crop of Rs. 4s.51 lacs. Balances held abroad have declined by Rs. 4.28 crores, whilst Government have completely wiped out their borrowings under Ways and Means.

The latest return of the Imperial Bank of India, for the week ended 19th December, reveals a fall of Rs. 106.57 lacs in all kinds of Deposits, Loans and Advances by the Bank have increased by Rs. 194.66 lacs, but the Bank's holding of Cash has contracted by Rs. 1.74 crores.

GILTEDGED

After the last week's sharp fall in prices, the local giltedged market regained its poise somewhat and prices were well maintained throughout the period under report. There was spasmodic investment inquiry and a moderate turnover was reported in long-dated bonds. 4 per cent 1960-70 loan was transacted at Rs. 108, while 5 per cent 1945-55 (tax free) loan found buyers at around Rs. 106-8. 3 1/2 per cent Rupee Paper, which had declined to Rs. 92-8 mid-week, was steadier at Rs. 92-12 at the close, whilst its counterpart in London was quoted higher at £99. 2 3/4 per cent 1948-52 loan was quoted a shade lower at Rs. 96-12 and 3 per cent 1946 Bonds at Rs. 100-13. 3 per cent 1951-54 loan ruled steady at Rs. 98-8, 3 per cent 1963-65 loan at Rs. 92-12 and 4 per cent 1943 bonds at Rs. 102-15. 3 1/2 per cent, 1947-50 loan was quoted a trifle lower at Rs. 101, but 4 1/2 per cent 1955-60 loan was well maintained around Rs. 112-8.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA STERLING LOANS

The Government of India have announced their intention to repatriate the following outstanding three sterling loans:

	Estimated Outstanding amount, Million £
3 1/2 per cent 1931	76
3 per cent 1948	70
2 1/2 per cent 1926	11
	£157

Holders of the 3 1/2 per cent sterling loan are given a year's notice that the loan will be repaid on 5-1-43. All U. K. holders of te remaining two loans are called upon to surrender such loans at prices fixed by the authorities there, which are based on the current market prices. All such holders are required to deliver the securities in question before the 9th of February 1942, payment fo which will probably be made in the beginning of March 1942.

The Government of Indi ahave taken a similar action in connection with holders of such loans in India. Payment in the case of Indian holders will be made on the basis of the sterling rates converted at 1s. 6d.

The above operations will involve payments to the extent of £81 million during the first quarter of 1942 and £75 million one year hence.

A Reserve Bank of India Press communique dated 22nd December, 1941, on tenders for Treasury Bills states:—

"Tenders for Rs. one crore of three months' Government of India Treasury Bills were opened on Monday the 22nd December, 1941. Total amount offered was Rs. 1,24,25,000. Tenders at Rs. 99-12-3 and above were accepted in full and those at Rs. 99-12 allotted approximately 80 per cent. Total amount accepted was Rs. 1,00,00,000, the average rate of accepted tenders being Re. 1 per cent per annum.

"Tenders for Rs. one crore of three months' Government of India Treasury Bills will be received on Tuesday the 6th January, 1942. Successful tenderers should make payment on Friday, the 9th January, 1942. Other conditions are as usual.

"During the week ended 19th December, 1941, Government of India Treasury Bills for Rs. 81,50,000 were sold in favour of the Issue Department of the Reserve Bank of India.

"Three months' intermediates will be sold from 23rd December, 1941, to 5th January, 1942, at Rs. 99-12-3 subject to the conditions previously announced (viz., sales can be stopped at any time without previous notice if Government think it necessary).

"Three months' intermediates sold from 17th to 20th December, 1941, amounted to Rs. 1,92,50,000."

EXCHANGE

In the absence of any appreciable trade movement, there was no change in the rupee/sterling exchange market which continued to be very steady. For interbank business, sellers of spot T T on London quoted 1s 5 63/64d and buyers 1s 6d. Merchant rates fixed by the Exchange Banks' Association were unchanged as under:—

Sellers of T T on London (spot and upto six months) ..... 1s 5 31/32d.
Buyers of T T on London (spot and upto six months) ..... 1s 6 1/32d.

In the New York market, sterling lay pegged at 403.75 cents throughout the week.

GOLD

After registering the record high last week, the gold market saw a slight reaction in rates during the week under review. Opening around Rs. 48-9, ready gold receded to Rs. 47-10 on Monday following greater arrivals from up-country and Indian production source. After fluctuating narrowly around this level, the rate closed quieter at Rs. 47. In view of the heavy demand for ready delivery, January settlement gold was quoted at a discount of 4 to 5 annas throughout. There was no trading for Febuary in accordance with the agreement between the dealers referred to in our last issue. Sovereigns were quoted between Rs. 33 and Rs. 31-12 per coin in sympathy with the fluctuations in the price of gold. Floating stocks of gold are estimated to be about 100,000 tolas; arrivals from up-country are estimated at 20,000 tolas a day; while the average daily offtake is said to be 15,000 tolas. The highest and lowest rates touched were: Rs. 49 and Rs. 47 for spot and Rs. 48-11 and Rs. 46-12 for January settlement.

SILVER

A slight setback, compared to prices prevailing in the previous week, was noticeable in the silver section of the local bullion market and some profit-taking was reported. Opening at Rs. 70-15, spot silver went up to Rs. 71-7 on Saturday, but reacted and closed quieter at Rs. 69-7. Owing to continued large-scale offtake, ready silver of .999 fineness commanded a premium of Rs. 4-8 to Rs. 5 over January settlement, whereas silver to be delivered in the February settlement stood an anna under January. In London, the only interesting feature was the increase of 1/16d in the forward quotation over the Government of India's selling ceiling for spot since the beginning of the war and registering the only advance since the hectic days of 1935 when the U. S. silver purchase programme was at its height. Throughout the week under review, spot silver remained fixed at 23 1/2d and two months' forward at 23 9/16d. Floating stocks of silver in the local market are said to be about 15,000 tolas. The highest and lowest rates touched were: Rs. 71-7 and Rs. 69-7 for spot, Rs. 66-11 and Rs. 64-15 for January and Rs. 66-10 and Rs. 64-14 for February settlement.

SHARES

A pre-holiday hesitancy characterised the local stock market and prices moved within a narrow range with a limited turnover. The panic which was in evidence last week had subsided and confidence seemed to be gradually returning.

Tata Iron and Steel Deferreds fluctuated narrowly between Rs. 1,710 and Rs. 1,680 and Ordinaries ranged between Rs. 326 and Rs. 320. Mill shares were steady at lower levels; Bombay Dyeings remained in the vicinity of Rs. 1,245 and Centuries around Rs. 422, whilst Central Indias were quoted at Rs. 392. Kohinoors, after an initial drop of about 20 points to Rs. 508, closed steady at Rs. 526, whilst New Greats were somewhat quieter at Rs. 310 at the finish. The gap between cash and forward quotations narrowed in all scrips; Deferreds being quoted at 50 points difference for cash and Ordinaries at 3 to 4 points. The difference between the cash and forward quotation for Bombay Dyeings had also narrowed down to about 60 points. In the Hydro-Electric group of shares, prices were almost static with little or no business passing; Andhra Valleys were quoting Rs. 1,650 for cash and Bombay Trams Rs. 140, whilst small business was reported in Tata Powers at Rs. 1,655. Amongst Banks, there was small investment demand and prices showed a tendency to harden somewhat; Central Banks improved from Rs. 46-12 to Rs. 47-12 and Bank of Indias were quoted a point higher at Rs. 141. Imperial Bank Fully Paids found buyers at Rs. 1,606. In the miscellaneous group, Bombay Burmahs were remarkably steady at Rs. 360, whilst Associated Cements and Belapurs were quoted higher at Rs. 163 and Rs. 284 respectively. Scindia Steams, after dropping by a point to Rs. 21-4, remained steady at the decline, whilst New Indias evoked good inquiry at Rs. 52-8.

TATA HYDRO-ELECTRIC AGENCIES LTD.

Total Units Generated

Messrs. Tata Hydro-Electric Agencies Limited, Agents for The Tata Hydro-Electric Power Supply Co. Ltd., The Andhra Valley Power Supply Co. Ltd., and The Tata Power Company, Limited, report that the total electrical (Board of Trade) units generated at the three Power Stations of the Hydro Group and purchased from the Chola Steam Station were as follows:—

51st Week (ended December 23rd)

1939	14,336,600
1940	17,734,700
1941	20,046,240

(Hydro & Chola)

Total for 51 Weeks (1st January to date)

1939	680,610,500
1940	757,912,300
1941	963,291,468

Yarn And Silk Merchants Quotations

Bombay: December 27.

	Rs. a.p.
64/2 Koru Nissin—	
Spot	29 4 0
December	31 10 0
January	32 4 0
64/2 Koru Nissin—	
Spot	39 0 0
December	41 0 0
January	41 8 0
62/2 Any—	
Spot	2 9 0
December	3 1 0
January	3 2 0
80/2 Any—	
Spot	3 0 0
December	3 8 0
January	3 9 0
150 Any—	
Spot	2 10 0
December	3 1 0
January	3 3 0

Bombay War Gifts Fund

Amount previously acknowledged: Rs. 75,08,919/0/4

For Lord Mayor's Relief Fund: Rs. 252
80 per cent of the proceeds of the Thrift Stall run by Mrs. Harris, Group Leader, W.A.C., Deolali. Rs. 210 "Cine." Rs. 102
Miss Ann Twynam.
For R.A.F.: Rs. 238 H. T. "Devonshire."
Grand Total on Saturday: Rs. 75,10,244/10/4

GROUNDNUTS AND SEEDS

Bombay: December 27.

	Rs. a.p.
Groundnuts February—	
Opening	43 10 0
Highest	43 11 0
Lowest	42 12 0
Closing	42 12 6
Cottonseeds January—	
Opening	26 14 6
Highest	26 15 0
Lowest	26 1 0
Closing	26 2 0
Cottonseeds May—	
Opening	25 11 0
Highest	25 12 0
Lowest	25 5 6
Closing	25 6 0
Castorseeds May—	
Opening	43 12 0
Highest	44 0 0
Lowest	43 7 0
Closing	43 7 0

SHRI MAHAJAN ASSOCIATION, LTD.

The following rates prevailed in the market on 27th day of December 1941:—

BROACH FULLY GOOD QUALITY VAIDAS: APRIL/MAY 1941/42

Bombay: December 27.

11 a.m. (B.T.)	Rs. 218/0
12-30 p.m. (B.T.)	Rs. 219/8
2-30 p.m. (B.T.)	Rs. 214/4
April/May Highest	Rs. 220/4
April/May Lowest	Rs. 214/4

AMERICAN COTTON FIGURES

F P Bales.	1941/42	1940/41
Receipts to date 26-12-41	2277000	2396000
Receipts yesterday 26-12-41	18000	18000
Export to date 19-12-41		585000
Stock at Ports 19-12-41	3394000	3364000
Stock at interior towns do.	3322000	3320000
Quantity in sight 19-12-41		6908000

TEJI MANDI PREMIUMS

Bombay: December 27.

	Rs. a.p.
Wheat May	0 9 0
Linseed May	1 0 0
Groundnut February	3 0 0
Castorseed May	5 8 0
Cottonseed January	1 2 0
Cottonseed May	2 14 0
Silver 1st settlement	0 14 0
Silver 2nd settlement	2 5 0
Gold 1st settlement	0 14 0
Gold 2nd settlement	2 6 0

INDIAN COTTON FIGURES.

Bombay: December 27.

RECEIPTS INTO BOMBAY

In full-pressed bales. 23-12-41.	Since 1st Sept. This year.	Last year
Khandesh	1,059	17,563	28,991
Central India	210	6,975	6,731
Barsi and Nagar	697	18,517	17,542
Hyderabad/Gaorani		1,011	4,998
Berar	2,736	51,505	57,421
Central Provinces	1,211	19,780	5,588
Total Oomras	5,913	115,451	121,271
Dholeras	55	12,901	5,408
N.-W. Provinces		949	198
Rajputana		279	679
Sind-Punjab	1,352	144,065	147,691
Broach		14,748	6,885
Coompta & Dharwar	72	5,566	24,152
Westerns & Northerns	363	6,878	25,510
Cocanada			170
Tinnevelly and Cambodia		7,397	522
Total	7,755	307,234	332,486
Arrived by road to 18th December 1941		27,500	32,000

SMALL LONG LIQUIDATION IN N. Y. MARKET

ABSENCE OF TRADE BUYING

Drastic Reduction In Non-Defence Expenditures

Bombay: Dec. 27.

On Friday the New York cotton market after a continuous rise over six days, reacted on moderate liquidation.

The market was particularly influenced by recommendations for a drastic reduction in non-defense expenditures. This means that large expenditure so far done on civil and agricultural purposes will have to be diverted to war requirements. But in doing so, the interest of American cotton-growers cannot be neglected.

NEW YORK MARKET

On the New York Cotton Exchange there was hedging and commission house liquidation on the issuance of 26 notices and recommendations for a drastic reduction in non defense expenditures. The decline attracted Mill price fixing and local support, but towards the close there was New Orleans selling.

The New York cotton market opened at a decline of 7 pts. with March 16.98. There was moderate buying and March advanced to 17.03, which was the highest level. Subsequently prices declined to 16.95 and the market closed at a net decline of 10 to 11 pts. Spot cotton prices declined 10 pts at 18.24c per lb.

LOCAL MARKET

Messrs Anandilal Poddar and Co. state:—When extremes overrun their boundary, an introspection is needed. The present panic is due to bombing of Rangoon and emergency measures in Calcutta. Let us, however, remember that our city is still out of the danger zone. Also let us not overlook that India is the arsenal of the East and storehouse of commodities, apart from the lifeline of British Empire. Hence, Britain can illafford to forsake India to the enemy's wolves. Another important factor during this week is the redemption of Indian Sterling debt. As suggested in our report of December 13, this falsifies the illusion of unlimited inflation and strengthens our currency. This should partly dispel fears of heavy taxation in next budget due to large savings in interest and it may be equally distributed. In England, all war expenditure is met by 30 per cent additional taxation and 47 per cent and 23 per cent long and short term loans respectively. There is no surprise if this is followed in India.

PRIVATE CABLES

New York: Dec. 24: March highest 17.07 +03; lowest 17.01—03.

New York: Dec. 26: March highest 17.03 —02; lowest 16.95—10.

Messrs. Chunilal Mehta and Co. Ltd. have received to-day the following cable information from their foreign friends:—

New York: Market eased in absence of trade buying. Market awaiting war developments.

NEW YORK COTTON

New York, Dec. 27.

January	16.56
March	16.96
May	17.11
Middling Spot	18.25

NEW ORLEANS COTTON

New York, Dec. 27.

January	16.63
March	17.03
May	17.16
Middling Spot	17.33

NEW YORK COTTON DAILY STATISTICS

New York, Dec. 27.

	Bales
Day's Receipts at all U. S. Ports	22,000

LONDON EXCHANGES.

London, Dec. 27.

T. T. London on:—	
New York	4.02-1/2 to 4.03-1/2
Madrid	40.50
Montreal	4.43 to 4.47
Berne	17.30 to 17.40
Stockholm	16.85 to 16.95

INSTRUCTIONS TO OWNERS OF SECURITIES TRANSFERRED TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

The following Press Communique is issued:—

The following instructions are issued by the Reserve Bank of India under Sub-Rule 4(b) of the Defence of India Rules for the guidance of the owners of the securities transferred to the Central Government under their Notification No. D. 7175 B-41 dated the 24th December 1941, hereinafter referred to as the Vesting Order.

The term "Owner" as defined in Rule 94-(i) (ii) of the Defence of India Rules includes, in relation to any security, any person who has the power to sell or transfer a security, or who has the custody thereof, or who receives, whether on his own behalf or on behalf of any other person, dividends or interest thereon, or who has any interest therein.

Owners of the securities affected by the Vesting Order are required to make, or to arrange to make, delivery of the securities forthwith in the following manner. Holders are required to declare that the transactions do not constitute trading with the enemy, that no part of the proceeds will be made available to the enemy and that since the outbreak of war the coupons and the relative bonds or stock certificates have not been the property of an enemy.

SECURITIES HELD IN INDIA.—

(i) Stock Certificates to bearer (bearer bonds).

If held in India the certificate and all coupons belonging thereto must be delivered to the Public Debt Office of the Reserve Bank of India in Bombay or Calcutta either by registered post or personally or through a Bank or a Broker. Coupons which fell due for payment before the date of the Vesting Order must be detached.

(ii) Inscribed Stock.—A transfer in blank executed by the person in whose name the stock is inscribed should be lodged with the Public Debt Office of the Reserve Bank of India in Bombay or Calcutta.

(iii) Registered Stock.—The registered certificate together with a transfer in blank duly executed by the registered holder should be lodged with the Public Debt Office of the Reserve Bank of India in Bombay or Calcutta.

SECURITIES HELD IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

If the securities are held in the United Kingdom the holders must declare to the Public Debt Office the name of the loan, the amount of the stock, the form in which it is held and the full name and business address of the United Kingdom agents in whose custody it is held. They must instruct their agents by DLT cable to make delivery of the stock and all the necessary documents to the Bank of England in accordance with such procedure as the Bank of England may prescribe in this behalf. The cost of the DLT cable will be borne by the Reserve Bank of India. The cable must be shown before issue to the Public Debt Office of the Reserve Bank, which will give a serial number to the holding under which the Agent should be instructed to surrender it to the Bank of England.

The owners of the securities to which the Central Government order mentioned above relates must surrender the securities against cash payment in rupees.

The transfer forms and registered certificates delivered in accordance with paragraph 2(A) (ii) and (iii) above will be sent by air mail to the Bank of England for verification and no payment will be made 1942 will be made on the 2nd March 1942 and payment in respect of the documents handed in after the 9th February 1942 will be made three weeks after delivery. Payment will be made to the owner or to the Bank or approved Broker duly authorised by him in this behalf. Allowance has been made in the price fixed for each security in the Vesting Order for the period that must elapse between the date of the Vesting Order and the first due date of payment. This price represents capital payment and is not subject to income-tax. All transactions will be put through at the standard rate of 1/6d per rupee.

Brokerage will be paid by the Reserve Bank of India to Banks and Brokers in India who lodge documents with the Reserve Bank of India, irrespective of where the securities are deposited, at the rate of 1/8 per cent of the nominal value of the securities delivered in good order converted at 1/6d. to the rupee. No commission will be charged by the Reserve Bank of India on the cash payment in rupees in exchange for the securities acquired.

EXPORTS OF RAW JUTE

Calcutta: Dec. 26.

Exports of raw jute from India during the first four months of the present season were more than double the exports during the same period of the previous one, according to the latest issue of the Indian Central Jute Committee's Bulletin.

The situation, the Bulletin adds, has been further improved by the India Government's decision to allow deeper loading of the ships. Consumption of the finished products is also satisfactory. Though the Indian mills increased their working hours during November, the stock of gunny bags and cloth with them at the end of the month was actually lower than what it was a month ago.

Referring to several new uses of jute the Bulletin states that production of a cork substitute of a patented jute waste base has commenced in Calcutta. A new method for making felts on Jute fire base has recently been patented. Felts produced by this method are claimed to be rot-proof, termite-proof, waterproof and resistant to heat of the sun.

The use of jute by a commercial firm as a base for a plastic composition for the manufacture of car and truck bodies is also announced.—A. P.

SHIPPING NEWS.

IMPORTS

Bombay, December 27

29010 bags copra; 30 jottas cardamoms; 1000 bags c n poonac expeller; 370 s/cyl c n oil; 46 h/chests tea; 30 cases gin; 47 cases brandy; 38 cases sherry; 109 cases wine; 221 bales mattress fibre; 86 cases safety matches.

EXPORTS

3300 tons manganese ore James Finlay and Co Ltd; 27 bags corriander seed Manekji and Co; 222 bales cotton pcegoods The Tata Mills Ltd; 91 bales cotton pcegoods B Balvant and Co; 131 bales cotton pcegoods Sapt Textile Products India Ltd; 25 bales cotton pcegoods Messrs Ralli Bros Ltd; 285 bales cotton pcegoods Manekji and Co; 246 bales cotton pcegoods Saleh Abdulla Bassam; 145 bales cotton pcegoods E D Sassoon and Co Ltd; 53 bales cotton pcegoods Aroon and Co; 47 bales cotton pcegoods Basil M P Govas; 140 bales cotton pcegoods The Swadeshi Mills Co Ltd; 30 bales cotton pcegoods R Shantilal and Co; 8 bales cotton pcegoods Singham Bros and Co (India); 6 bales cotton pcegoods Messrs Kro and Co; 18 bales cotton pcegoods Mackinnon Mackenie and Co; 40 bales cotton pcegoods Husein Essa and Bros; 9 bales cotton pcegoods Pan-Asiatic Overseas Co Ltd; 3 bales cotton pcegoods Hiralal Ltd; 36 bs cotton pcegoods Vadilal Ltd; 33 bales cotton yarn Saleh Abdulla Bassam; 53 bales cotton yarn Italindia Cotton Co Ltd; 57 cases cotton yarn Manekji and Co; 50 bales cotton yarn Vadilal Ltd; 65 cases cotton yarn Pan-Asiatic Overseas Co Ltd; 163 bs cotton waste Barot Bros and Co; 35 bales cotton waste Jani and Co; 267 bales cotton waste Manubhai Narotamdas and Co; 62 bales cotton canvas Basil M P Govas; 308 bags myrabollams H Bhagwandas and Co; 3 bags ising glass loose M Jaffer and Co; 3597 bags tale powder B Jain and Sons; 33 bags cummin seed G Gokalchan; 27 bags corriander seed G Gokalchan; 10 cases cotton yarn Manekji and Co; 1950 bags myrabollams Purshotam Mathradas and Co Ltd; 200 bales cotton waste C Jairam and Co; 300 bales cotton waste M Chandulal and Co; 100 bales cotton waste P D Vora and Co; 33 bales cotton pcegoods Ahmedabad Advance Mills Ltd; 19 bales cotton pcegoods Singram Bros and Co (India); 2465 bags

NO PROFITEERING IN CHARCOAL

Govt. To Fix Maximum Prices

The Director of Information, Bombay writes:—

The Government of Bombay has arranged for better arrivals of charcoal wagons in Bombay city. The price of charcoal in the producing areas in the Central Provinces from which it is mainly imported is Rs 0-9-0 to Rs 0-10-0 per Bombay maund. Charcoal should be available for retail sale (including free delivery) in Bombay for not more than annas fifteen per maund in any locality.

The Government is watching the situation and after further enquiries will fix maximum prices, if necessary in order to prevent profiteering and will rigorously enforce the orders.

BOMBAY TRANSPORT PROBLEMS.

The Director of Information, Bombay, writes:—

At the second meeting of the Bombay Transport Board held on December 22, the transport problems of the Province were reviewed.

The question of giving preference to essential commodities required in Bombay was also discussed.

The stocks of some commodities require replenishment and it was decided that the Railways will endeavour to give priority to essential commodities and in particular to wheat, rice, jowar, cotton seed and charcoal.

READY COTTON QUOTATIONS

Bombay: December 27.

Ready. Delivery contract Nov.

	Old.	Ready	Dec.	Jany.
Bengal Fine	123/26	135/38	.....	.....
Berar	148/53	181/83	Par	.....
C. P. 1	188/53	215/18	+35	.....
C. P. 2	158/63	195/97	.....	.....
Khandesh	108/13	118/23	.....	.....
Muglai	118/23	128/33	.....	.....
Broach	138/43	.....	.....	.....
Broach Low	118/28	.....	.....	.....

COTTON ROOM RATES

Bombay: December 27.

		Extra Spr-fine.	Sup.	Fine.	F.G.	Good
M G	Bengal U P	.....	138	135	132	129
M G	Punjab	.....	138	135	132	129
M G	Oomra No. 3	191	188	185	182	..
M G	C. P. No. 1	226	223	220	217	..
M G	C. P. No. 2	204	201	198	195	..

London Money Market

LONDON, Dec. 27.

In the money market generally quiet conditions prevailed with supplies just adequate. Applications for next week's treasury bills totalled 147 million and whole 75 million allotted at an average rate of one pound two decimal 30 pence per cent.

Market received 31 per cent. of its applications Banks have been asked to provide 40 million sterling against treasury deposit receipts.—Reuter.

ANNOUNCING

MESSAGE OF HEALTH

A Woman's "good health" contributes not a little to the happiness of a household as she plays the leading part in domestic life. Her illness handicaps the members of the family and throws the home into disorder. She should therefore keep herself "fit" and thus promote the Joy of her Home. She will find in "LODHRA" the best health-giver and remedy for feminine complaints.

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The Bombay Chronicle

Monday, December 29, 1941

Regd. No. B 1065

Founder: Pherozeshah Mehta

Editor: Syed Abdullah Brelvi

AMERICAN PENBERTHY

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Roosevelt's Talks With Dominion, Br. & India Representatives

Position Of Allies Strengthened Immeasurably, Says White House Statement

WASHINGTON, December 28.

President Roosevelt had a conference yesterday with representatives of Canada, Britain, Australia, India, and New Zealand.

Earlier he had also consultations with representatives of the ABCD., Powers and also with M. Litvinoff, the Russian Ambassador.

The text of President Roosevelt's statement issued by his Secretary, Mr. Stephen Early, at the White House says, "much has been accomplished in this week through the medium of the many conferences held in the meetings of Supply and Production officials in the sessions held by members of the military and naval groups and in the dicussions with chiefs of missions of all nations that are at war with the common enemy. Included were the conferences with Russian and Chinese ambassadors the Canadian Prime Minister and the Netherland's Minister.

As a result of all these meetings I know to-night that the position of the United States and of all the nations aligned with us, has been strengthened immeasurably. We have advanced far along the road toward the achievement of the ultimate objective—the crushing defeat of those forces that have attacked and made war upon us.

The conferences will continue for an indefinite period of time. It is impossible to say just now when they will terminate.

It is my purpose as soon as it is possible, to give, in so far as the safety of the world permits, giving of information of military value to the enemy, a more detailed account of all that has taken place in Washington this week and all that will take place during the remainder of the meeting.

The present overall objective is the marshalling of all resources, military and economic, of the world-wide front opposing the Axis. Excellent progress along these lines are being made."

A meeting of the British-American Council which was to have been held late Saturday has been postponed until Sunday, Mr. Stephen early, President Roosevelt's Private Secretary announced.

The meeting was the eighth in the series of group conferences on Saturday's White House schedule. —Reuter.

CANADA TO WELCOME CHURCHILL

OTTAWA, Dec. 28.

Preparations are being made today to receive Mr. Churchill next week and some quarters believe that the reception will compare with that accorded to Their Majesties in May, 1939.

Members of the House of Commons and the Senate have been summoned by telegraph to meet Mr. Churchill and to hear him speak. For the first time since the Imperial Economic Conference in 1932, the proceedings in the Commons will be broadcast. —Reuter.

Recognition Of Lebanese Independence

Implication Of King's Message Of Good Wishes To President

LONDON, Dec. 28.

The King sent a message on Saturday of good wishes to the President of the Lebanese Republic.

This constituted full British recognition of the independence of Lebanon as proclaimed by General Catroux on September 27, when the British and the Free French forces entered Syria.

The King in his message expressed best wishes for the prosperity and peaceful progress of Lebanon and "the earnest hope that the good understanding between our countries may become even more cordial and conducive to their mutual benefit and general observance of the principles of liberty and justice."—Reuter.

Identify Yourselves With Struggle For Independence

Meherally's Call At All-India Students' Conference At Patna

PATNA, Dec. 27.

A clarion call to take a deep interest in Students' Union and social problems and organise a trained and disciplined volunteer organisation was made by Mr Yusuf Meherally in the course of his Presidential Address to the seventh session of the All-India Students' Conference (Shah Group) which commenced here this afternoon.

Mr. Meherally at the outset referred to the Satyagraha movement of the Indian National Congress and its disassociation from the present war and said "the resignation of the Congress Ministries a little earlier in eight out of the eleven Provinces of India and the subsequent imprisonment or detention without trial of representative Congressmen including hundreds of members of Legislatures and almost all the Ministers who had resigned served to dramatise Indian struggle before the world at large.

HINDU-MUSLIM PROBLEM

Proceeding Mr. Meherally said: "In fact the responsibility devolving on the student community in a country struggling for independence was far heavier than on their more fortunate brethren elsewhere." Here the students have a two-fold duty to perform. The first was to identify themselves with the struggle for National liberation and secondly, to rebel against the deadweight of ancient customs and traditions that have long outlived their usefulness.

Referring to the Hindu-Muslim problem, Mr. Meherally said the communal problem was essentially the result of three factors. The first of these was undoubtedly Government policy. The second was the fight for political power among the intelligentsia of the different communities and the third was the comparative failure of non-communal political organisations to approach the Muslim masses in substantially large numbers, and bring them within their respective spheres of influence. While the economic approach was the most important, by itself alone, it will not be able to achieve the needed results. A greater cultural fusion between the two communities was also very necessary.

SYMPATHY FOR RUSSIA

Proceeding Mr. Meherally referred to the war and said. "With the coming in of Japan, the war has now spread to practically the whole world. It is not easy to foresee when it will end and how it will end. One question that is often being posed is whether the imperialist character of the war has changed after the entry of Soviet Russia. Our sympathies are naturally with the Russians in the great ordeal that they are facing so bravely but situated as we are, the first task before the people of this country is to work for their freedom. The blunt declaration of the British Prime Minister that the provisions of the Atlantic Charter do not apply to India shows the direction the wind is blowing. It is clear that so far as India is concerned, the Imperialist character of the war remains unchanged.

SPLIT IN STUDENTS' MOVEMENT

Concluding, Mr. Meherally referred to the split in the students' movement and said, "I am strongly of opinion the students' movement should not be made the tail end of any political party. The need for a broad based movement was never so great as to-day. A movement such as this can only grow in an atmosphere of tolerance. You must avoid dogmatic formulae and be realistic to hear view-points other than your own. It is not rigid dogmas but beliefs tested by experience of life that contain seeds of inspiration.—A.P.

U. S. OFFER TO JAPANESE PRISONERS

Expectation Of Reciprocal Fair And Humane Treatment

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.

The United States has informed Japan that all Japanese prisoners will be treated in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1929 says an Associated Press dispatch from Washington.

While Japan signed but never formally ratified the pact, it is expected here that Japan will grant all American prisoners of war reciprocal, fair and humane treatment in the expectation that large numbers of Japanese will ultimately be captured.

The War Department is planning internment camps distinct from those for interned Japanese nationals.—Reuter.

Polish Premier To Visit India

CAIRO, Dec. 27.

It is reliably learned that the Polish Prime Minister General Sikorski is visiting India shortly to confer with General Wavell. —Reuter.

DISCOURTESY TO PRESS

Hyderabad Journalists Ignore Indian Medical Conference

(From Our Correspondent.)

HYDERABAD, (Dn.) Dec. 26.

"Owing to the refusal of one of the general Secretaries of the 18th session of the All-India Medical Conference which commenced here to-day to provide press with copies of various addresses and particularly due to the discourteous treatment meted out to the press" the Hyderabad Journalists' Association at an emergent meeting held this evening resolved that as a protest all proceedings of the Conference should be ignored and requested the members and the British Indian Press not to give any publicity to the Conference proceedings. Consequently the evening papers of Hyderabad came out without any news of the Medical Conference.

GAUHATI LATHI CHARGE CONDEMNED

PATNA, December 27.

The Working Committee of the All-India Students' Conference met here last evening and passed a number of resolutions.

The first resolution characterised the present war as an imperialist war and called upon the people to intensify the national struggle and help the progressive forces by fighting the counter revolutionary forces on the home front.

Another resolution on the lathi charge at Gauhati condemned the action of the Assam Government and demanded the release of all the arrested student workers. The resolution also urged for an impartial judicial enquiry into the affair and demanded that persons responsible should be adequately pushed.

The resolution on the communal problem emphasised the essential unity of India and said that communal harmony could be achieved only by pushing forward the social economical and political demands of the messages.—A. P.

SAPRU DEMANDS INDIANISATION OF CENTRAL EXECUTIVE

NEW DELHI, Dec. 27.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru paid two days' visit to Delhi and left for Cawnpore this evening 'en route' to Lucknow.

During his stay here, he met a number of personal friends and called on Sir Maurice Gwyer, Chief Justice of India. He also met Indian members of the Viceroy's Executive Council who are now in Delhi.

It is believed that during his conversations with them, he emphasised the imperative necessity of immediate reconstruction of the Central Government which, in his opinion, should be entirely Indianised.

According to his view the danger to India was so great that no sense of false prestige should stand in the way of taking this step which alone would create requisite enthusiasm in the country for successful prosecution of war.

ON MAHASABHA BAN.

In the course of his conversations with his personal friends, and newspapermen, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru expressed disapproval of the action of the Bihar Government in arresting prominent Hindu leaders like Mr. Savarkar, Dr. Moonje, Bhai Permanand, Raja Maheshwar Dayal Seth, Dr. Shyam Prasad Mukerji, and Sir Gokul Chand Narang. He said, it was extremely unwise to take a measure of this kind which would alienate the sympathy and support of Hindu Mahasabha at this juncture. He thought, it was improbable that there would have been a communal disturbance if the Hindu Mahasabha was allowed to hold its session at Bhagalpur.

ASSAM GOVERNOR'S ACTION CONDEMNED.

Referring to Assam, Sir Tej Bahadur disapproved of the action of the Governor of Assam in taking over administration of the province under Section 9 of the Government of India Act. He said it was never the intention of the framers of the Act that this section should be used in the manner in which it was being done.

Sir Tej regretted the threatened ministerial crisis in Sind and was very glad that Khan Bahadur Allah Bux had not resigned in a huff.

Asked by the Associated Press as to the line he was going to take in his address to the All Parties Conference in Delhi in February, Sir Tej Bahadur said that he had not thought about it yet. It is likely that he would reiterate his views regarding reconstruction of the Central Government laying special emphasis that portfolio of Defence should be transferred to an Indian.—A. P.

In Middle East

Indian Troops' Gallantry

Upset Legend Of Invincibility Of German Panzer Divisions

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.

Indian troops are in the Caucasus, Sir Gerald Campbell, the head of the British Information Services, revealed to a press conference on Saturday, when he extolled the "gallant" fighting of the Indians in the African and the Middle Eastern campaigns.

Playing a great part in this war, Indians, said Sir Gerald, "have done a good deal to upset the legend of the invincibility of the German Panzer divisions by the way they fought in Libya", adding "and other Indian troops are in the Caucasus.—Reuter.

SENT AXIS REELING FROM LIBYA

Smuts Congratulates Auchinleck

PRETORIA, Dec. 27.

The Prime Minister Field Marshal Smuts has sent the following cable to the Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, General Auchinleck:—

"As your brilliant Libyan campaign is nearing a successful close, I send you the most cordial congratulations of South Africa.

It is the finest Christmas box you could have given us and the whole Empire. Knowing your difficulties and anxieties, my rejoicing is all the greater at this blow which is sending Italy and Germany reeling from Libya.

Your success is welcomed as an augury for the success of the larger enterprises which await you. The Army of the Middle East has reason to be satisfied and proud of its heroic achievement in rounding off 1941 with this resounding victory.

Our satisfaction and pride is even greater. Thank you."—Reuter.

'Mistake To Divert Troops From Libya'

ANKARA, Dec. 28.

Mr. Churchill's remarks about the Middle East in his speech to Congress are entirely in accordance with views of unofficial Turkish circles here, says Reuter's correspondent. These circles consider that any diversion of strength from the Middle-East to the Far East would be a mistake. The Turks regard Libya as of vital importance to the outcome of the war but hold that the Far East is only a diversion which, though painful at the start, can always be cleaned up by the Allies later. The progress of General Auchinleck's offensive is being watched very eagerly in Ankara. It is hoped that he will clean up all Axis forces in Libya very soon, thus freeing the Nile armies for service elsewhere in the event of Hitler trying to stage a diversion in the Near East.

Reports reaching here, it is pointed out, confirm that Italian morale is deteriorating and would be dealt a smashing blow by a complete victory in Libya. Such a victory, it is argued, would be bound also to have repercussions in the Reich.—Reuter.

JAN. 1, AS DAY OF NATIONAL PRAYERS

King's Support For Roosevelt's Plan

LONDON, Dec. 28.

President Roosevelt's call to make January the First a day of National Prayer has met with prompt response in Britain.

The King had declared his support for the plan.

Following statement on the subject has been issued by the Archbishop of Canterbury "The President of the United States has called his people to observe the First Day of the New Year as a National Day of Prayer for the blessing and guidance of the Almighty God as they enter the ordeal of war.

I feel sure that there will be a general desire on the part of the citizens of this country to associate themselves on that day in private and wherever this is possible, in public, prayers with their brethren in the United States. I am authorised to say that His Majesty the King hopes that in this way many of his own people may be able to join with the people of the United States in prayer for them, for their country and for the cause in which they are now our Allies and comrades".—Reuter.

Bulgaria At War With Britain

LONDON, Dec. 27.

A formal notification of the State war between Great Britain and Bulgaria is published in the official London Gazette to-day. This is based on the information from the United States that the Bulgarian declaration of war was announced in the Bulgarian Parliament on December 13 although the British Government itself "so far has received no official communication to this effect from the Bulgarian Government.—Reuter.

American Leaders' Descent

LONDON, Dec. 20.

One curious point is apparent in the descent of American leaders, writes the "Manchester Guardian." President Roosevelt is Dutch; the original head of the Republican Party and one who is as strongly against Hitler as himself, Mr. Wendell Willkie, is of German descent, and the mayor of New York, the strongest figure in American civic life, who has done so much to make the United States realise its danger, Mayor LaGuardia is of Italian descent.

Devdas Gandhi Entertained

NEW DELHI, Dec. 27.

Mr. Devdas Gandhi was entertained to-day at an "at home" given by Mr. Asu De Secretary, the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society.

A large gathering of Journalists at the Government of India headquarters was present.—A. P.

HONG KONG ASSETS IN U. S. TO BE FREEZED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.

President Roosevelt has issued an order freezing Hong Kong assets in the United States.

All financial trade transactions in which Hong Kong interests are involved have been brought under Government control.

The order provides automatic freezing of assets in any other territory occupied or overrun by military, naval and other Axis forces.—Reuter.

Enemy Submarines On West Coast

WASHINGTON: A Navy Department Communique states: The Far East: During enemy bombing attacks two of our destroyers sustained minor damage. There were no casualties to the personnel.

THE EASTERN PACIFIC: Enemy submarines are still operating in the West Coast. Due to the effective counter-measures adopted by our forces, they are experiencing great difficulty in prosecuting their attacks.

THE GENERAL PACIFIC: Counter-measures against enemy submarines patrolling in Hawaiian waters are being vigorously prosecuted.—Reuter.

Hong Kong Governor Still At Jowloon

TOKYO, Dec. 27.

The Governor of Hong Kong, Sir Mark Young, is still at the Peninsula Hotel at Jowloon, where the formal surrender of the fortress was made, says the newspaper "Yomiuri Shimbun".—Reuter.

Red Cross Move To Help Hong Kong Casualties

TORONTO, Dec. 27.

The Chairman of the Canadian Red Cross, Mr. Gordon, has cabled the International Red Cross in Geneva for help in getting the quickest possible information about prisoners and casualties as a result of the Japanese occupation of Hong Kong.—Reuter.

Craigie And His Staff Safe In Tokyo

LONDON, Dec. 27.

A message has reached London from the British Ambassador in Tokyo, Sir Robert Craigie, which says he and his staff are safe and well and send Christmas greetings to their relatives and friends.—Reuter.

Chiang As Acting Foreign Minister

LONDON, Dec. 27.

Chiang kai-Shek's assumption of office as the acting Foreign Minister of China is presumed in London to be necessitated by the absence in Washington of Mr. Tu Soong, who was recently appointed Foreign Minister in succession to Doctor Quotaichi.

It was then stated that Mr. Soong would remain in Washington for some time.

Charlie Chan Detective Story Day By Day:

CHARLIE CHAN — **THE CHIEF JUMPS AT CONCLUSIONS** — **By ALFRED ANDRIOLA**

I'M DIZZIER THAN A WHIRLING DERVISH! I'D BETTER WAIT BEFORE CALLING FOR HELP!
MEANWHILE...
THIS IS DANTON'S COSTUME!
AND LIKE BRILLIANT MAN—HAS NO BUTTONS MISSING!
AND THIS IS THE ONE ERIC OCCASIONALLY USES!
ALL BUTTONS PRESENT—SO NO HELP TO US!
AND THIS IS MY BROTHER JACK'S—
HAIE! AND PEERING EYES SEE THIRD BUTTON IS MISSING!
THEN JACK CONWAY IS GUILTY!
Alfred Andriola
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2-15

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